MEMOIRS OF THE COURT OF SPAIN.

In Two Parts.

Written by an Ingenious *French* Lady.

Done into *English* by *T. Brown.*

Utile Dulci.

LONDON,
Printed, for *T. Horn*, at the *Royal Exchange*, *F. Saunders*, at the *New Exchange* and *T. Bennet*, in S. *Paul's Church-Yard.* 1692.

The Epiſtle Dedicatory.

TO

His Honeſt Friend

Mr. *WILLIAM PATE*,

Of *London* Woollen-draper.

I Know no occaſion wherein all ſorts of people have taken greater liberty, than in their Dedications, both in regard of the perſons to whom the Complement is made, and of the things that are uſually ſaid in them. All Authors pretend to diſclaim flattery upon theſe ſubjects, and yet were Hiſtorians to draw Great Men according as they are repreſented in Dedications, abundance of Perſons would paſs with Poſterity for men of wit, who never made a jeſt in their lives, and for honeſt Patriots, who were only mere Fripons *at the bottom; but tho moſt Authors are agreed to wheedle and flatter in their Dedications, yet I ſee they are not ſo well agreed in the choice of their Patron; ſome have choſe whole Corporations, or Societies for this Office, and indeed this conduct would be politick enough, if the Parties, who are concerned in the Dedication were obliged to eſpouſe the Author's quarrel; others have gone a ſtep fur-*

ther, and dedicated their Books to the reſpective Countries where they live; and laſtly, ſome of a more Univerſal Spirit, have offered them to the whole World in general, without any reſtrictions or limitations, as it conſiſts of the four known parts, Europe, Aſia, Africk *and* America, *and comprehends perſons of all ſorts and characters, thoſe that can read as well as thoſe that cannot, and thoſe that have a Religion as well as thoſe that have none at all. But the generality of Writers decline this courſe of Dedication, becauſe Bodies Politick, and Countries, and the World it ſelf, as large as it is, ſeldom reward the Author, for, as we ſay, what is every mans buſineſs, is no mans buſineſs, and therefore they generally make choice of particular perſons, and thoſe for the greateſt part of the beſt Eſtates and Fortunes; not becauſe an Illuſtrious name gives any better protection to a Book than a Meaner would do, altho this is always pretended, but becauſe ſuch perſons are beſt able to reward an Author, and conſider him for his incenſe. As I never knew a bad Book ſell a farthing the better for having a gaudy Title prefixed to it, ſo a good one never fared the worſe becauſe it appeared without a fine* Fiocco: *For in ſhort, if the world has a mind to be cenſorious, a Perſon of Quality's name is as feeble an Amulet againſt the Criticks, as a Silver Horſeſhoe nailed upon a threſhold would be againſt Witchery and Poſſeſſion; for I am of opinion, that an Horſeſhoe made of Iron is full as powerful a preſervative as the other. Now I had two reaſons, Mr.* Pate, *to addreſs the following Tranſlation to your ſelf, the firſt is becauſe you are my Friend, with whoſe entertaining learned Converſation I have been often diverted, and the next is,*

becauſe

becauſe I can approach you without any of that Ceremony and Fineneſs, which uſes to embarras a young Author ſo much, when he addreſſes himſelf to Quality, where, as he is obliged to ſay ſeveral things againſt his Conſcience, ſo he cannot aſſume that familiarity and openneſs, which makes all ſorts of Diſcourſes agreeable. However I would not have you think, that I am ſo unreaſonable as to deſire you to ſtand Surety, or (what in a few years will become a ſcandalous word with us) Godfather to my Tranſlation, beeauſe I am ſenſible there are ſeveral faults in it; nor yet to defend the little Poetry in it, becauſe I underſtand Spaniſh *no more than I do* Arabic, *and conſequently was forced to copy after the* French *Paraphraſe; nor laſtly to ſtand up for the Author of this Epiſtle, for then you muſt reſolve to combat all comers and goers: All I require of you is that if any of your acquaintance ſhould enquire either after the Book or the Tranſlator, you would only tell them that the Book gives a good account of a certain Prince's Court, who at this preſent writing is one of our Allies and Confederates, and that the Tranſlator is a very honeſt fellow, who between a little* French *and leſs* Latin *makes a ſhift to get a ſorry livelihood.*

I have been often reproached, and particularly by your ſelf for ſitting idle a whole year, and writing nothing of my own; now tho I muſt confeſs a certain party amongſt us has given us almoſt daily provocations to encounter them, yet I find they are a generation that are never to be edified by Satyr, and indeed all wholeſome advice is effectually loſt upon them. Suppoſe you or I ſhould tell honeſt Mr. Partridge *yonder of* Covent-garden, *that it was not*

civily

civily done of him to leave the thirtieth of January, Good Friday, *and the twenty ninth of* May *all at a clap out of his Almanack, and that* John Gadbury *and he may now ſhake hands together, like a couple of bigotted Raſcals as they are, perhaps next year, (as who knows how far a turbulent Reformer's zeal may carry him) he will leave us never an Apoſtle in the Calender, to the utter confuſion of the poor people in the Country, who make no other uſe of the Apoſtles, but only to direct them to the next Horſe-race or Fair. To ſay the truth, we have too many ridiculous follies, and diviſions amongſt us ever to be cured by writing, which puts me in mind of what Mr.* Burgeſs, *who has made all the Town merry with his Preaching ſaid lately upon this Argument.* We *Engliſhmen, crys he,* have been famous in all ages for our wars and jars, and ſtrife and life, and ſo forth: Why, what do you think *Virgil* ſaid of you ſixteen hundred years ago? Even *penitus toto diviſos orbe Britannos, i.e.* the *Britains* are the moſt divided people in the whole world. *Thus you ſee, Mr.* Pate, *what little encouragement a man has to write, ſince it is ſo unlikely that he ſhould ever cure any of thoſe diſtempers that are ſo inveterate in our Climate, but I haue a more particular reaſon ſtill behind, which obliges me to ſit a ſpectator, and purely reſpects my ſelf; for as I have had the ill luck to diſpleaſe the Moderate Party by attacquing the merits of the Comprehenſion in my laſt Dialogue, ſo I have fallen under the indignation of the Criticks by being too profuſe and laviſh of my ſimiles. As for the firſt I have nothing to ſay to them, becauſe they are a ſort of Gentlemen, to whom I never deſigned to make my Court, and as for the laſt,*

laſt, before I go about to juſtifie my ſelf, I will tell you a ſhort Story. I happened ſome years ago to make a viſit to an honeſt decayed old Captain in Alſatia, *and his Chamber was a perfect Wilderneſs: Pipes and Napkins, and ends of Candles, and old Cloaks were jumbled all together, but what was moſt remarkable a Loaf and a Cheeſe lay upon his Cloſe-ſtool. I asked him the reaſon of it, and the Captain honeſtly told me that he did it only for want of room. And this Mr.* Pate *was my own Caſe exactly, for there were ſeveral Perſons in the world for whom I had a kindneſs, and theſe for want of a better convenience I was often forced to throw into a ſimile, and to ſay the truth ſome, of them were ſuch ſad wretches that they did not deſerve to have a Paragraph beſtowed upon them.*

But now to ſpeak a word or two in behalf of theſe Memoirs, I am in good hopes they will be favourably received, both becauſe they were written originally by a Lady, which will go a great way you know with the Ladies, and admirers of Ladies, as alſo becauſe they give us a true Idea of the Spaniſh Court, with which the generality of men amongſt us, are utterly unacquainted, and laſtly becauſe they provide an agreeable entertainment to all ſorts of people: For here is Rain and Sunſhine, and Earthquakes and Shows, and Maſquerades, and Proceſſions, and the Lord knows how much Hiſtory in Sippits to divert the zealous Admirers of Stow *and* Hollenſhead: *And then for Perſons of better Palats here are abundance of political reflexions, and judicious obſervations, with the true reaſons how this vaſt Monarchy, which in the laſt Century made ſo conſiderable a figure in the world, is in this become ſo feeble and Paralytic; ſo*

that

that not to flatter the work, I ſhould ſcarce believe it was written by one of the fair Sex, but that ſeveral French *Gentlemen here about the Town have fully ſatisfied me of the truth of it. I will only take notice of one Inſtance among the reſt to give you a true taſte of this Lady's ingenuity. Don* Juan, *while the adminiſtration of affairs was lodged in his hands removed a poor Dominican from* Salamanca *(which place you know a certain Doctor who pretends he has received more ſtripes on his back than St.* Paul *and all his Brethren did, has made remarkable in Story by the Chimerical Degree he took there) and made him the King's Confeſſor. He thought by this means to have ſecured the Monk for ever to his own Intereſts, and to have had a truſty Confident upon all occaſions near his Majeſties perſon: But he found himſelf mightily miſtaken in his expectation, for this beaſt of a Religious, ſoon abandoned his Patron's party, and herded amongſt his profeſt Enemies.* Some People, *ſays this Lady,* pretend that he did it out of a Principle of Conſcience, but as for my ſelf I am of another opinion, 'il eſt impoſſible que 'l' ingratitude puiſſe jamais avoir de bons 'Principes. *It is impoſſible that ingratitude ſhould ever flow from any good Principle. I am ſorry that this honeſt Doctrin is not in better Reputation with ſome People amongſt us, for I am ſatisfied that no pretence whatever can atone for ſo black and ungenerous a Sin as Ingratitude is.*

I ſhould here, according to the laudable Cuſtom of all Authors, take occaſion to ſay ſomething in your praiſe, but beſides that I will not offer that Violence to your Modeſty, I cannot handſomely commend you, for ſo great

great a variety of Learning in ſo much Youth, but but at the expence of the City, and you know I have too great a reſpect for our honourable Metropolis to do any any thing of that nature, or indeed without a reproach to our ſelves, who cannot pretend ſuch excuſes, as the perpetual diſtractions of Trade and Buſineſs. Indeed if your good fortune in the world prove anſwerable to your merits, you may for all I know dye a richer man than Greſham *or* Sutton: *But I muſt tell you, my dear Friend, that good Fortune and Merit are two as different things as any are in the world. I knew a Gentleman who made a pleaſant remark upon this occaſion. I have, ſaid he, in my time laid out for two things,* viz. *Preferment and a Red Noſe, with as much zeal and application as any man in Town. To attain the laſt I have dutifully drank my Gallon of Claret every night, and a dull ſober Sot, a Neighbour of mine, with his ſingle penurious Pint has arrived to it before me: and as for the former I have wearied out my Patience in waiting at Court, and at Noblemens Levees, and yet could never ſtumble upon any; and ſo he concluded that ſeveral men come by Preferment and Red Noſes, who never deſerved either of them.*

After all, Mr. Pate, *if my wiſhes will do you any good, I wiſh you ſtore of Cuſtomers, but never a Poet, or Courtier, or disbanded Captain, or Player amongſt them all. May I be ſo fortunate as to behold you advanced to the higheſt Pinacle of honour in the City, to furniſh new matter for* Elkanah Settle's *Triumphs of* London, *to ſentence light Butter and Bread on Horſeback, to terrify Sabbath-breakers, and thoſe that forget to hang out their Lights, to appear in the next Edition of* Baker *or* Stow, *and arrive to*

the

the Priviledge of ſleeping in your Gold Chain at Guild-hall *Chappel. In ſhort, may you be the wealthieſt, happieſt man within the Bills of Mortality, and may you ever continue to love*

Your Friend and Servant,

T. Brown.

ERRATA.

PAge 1. Line 3. inſtead of *uſually* read *generally*, p. 13. l. 10 inſtead of *Corogne* r. *Groyne*. p. 19. l. 15. inſtead of *having taken the Horoſcope of* Flanders, r. *having had his Nativity calculated in* Flanders.

MEMOIRS OF THE COURT OF SPAIN.

WE must not expect to find in a general History those particular relations of things, that generally entertain the Reader better than the History it self: but when any person is once acquainted with them, he often reflects upon them with a great deal of pleasure. I imagine I may without any flattery pretend my self to be capable of writing several secret passages, that happened at *Madrid* from the year 1679, to the year 1681. However I think it not amiss to begin these Memoirs from the time of *Philip* the IV. in order to render the

following diſcourſe more intelligible, and to give the Reader a better Idea of the Genius of the *Spaniſh* Court.

Elizabeth of *France*, his Queen, being dead, he eſpouſed *Mary Ann* of *Auſtria*, Daughter of the Emperor *Ferdinand*, and Siſter of him that reigns at preſent. She was young, of a fair flaxen complexion, her humour was lively and pleaſant, and ſhe was no leſs agreeable than witty.

She departed from *Vienna*, in order to go to *Spain* in the year 1649. She loved the Arch-Duke her Brother very affectionately, and as both of them were weeping when they took their leave of one another, ſhe demanded of him what it lay in her power to do for his ſervice: My dear Siſter, ſays he, it lies in your power to have an Infanta there, which you may give to me in marriage. This accident is ſo much the more obſervable, becauſe the Arch-Duke having at that time an Elder Brother, who died afterwards King of the *Romans*, and being himſelf deſigned for the Eccleſiaſtic State, there was little probability that he ſhould ever arrive to the Empire, and marry, as it ſince fell out, the Eldeſt Daughter of the Queen his Siſter.

Amongſt ſeveral other perſons, whom the Emperor gave the Queen his Daughter to accompany her into *Spain*, he choſe Father *John Evrard Nitard*, a *German* Jeſuit, to be her Confeſſor. His extraction was mean and obſcure, and he employed almoſt all his thoughts in the advancing of his fortune. He was of a ſupple com-

complaiſant temper, he exactly ſtudied the reſpective characters of thoſe perſons to whom he belonged, and took care never to differ much from them as to matters of opinion. He finiſhed his Studies in the Jeſuits College at *Vienna*, and there took upon him the Habit of his Order, and afterwards was ſent to govern one of their Seminaries, in which office he acquitted himſelf very well. When he came back again to *Vienna*, he began to make himſelf known in the world, and ſeveral Ladies of the Court deſired him to be their Spiritual Director: they omitted no opportunity to do him all the good offices they could with the Emperor; and in fine, ſpoke in ſuch advantagious terms of him, that he was well enough contented to let the Queen take him along with her.

This Princeſs was extreamly ſurprized at all the *Spaniſh* Cuſtoms, which thoſe who came to wait upon her from the King, cauſed her to obſerve in the firſt days of her Voyage. I have have been told that as ſhe arrived to a certain City under the dominion of the King of *Spain*, where the principal Commodities of the place conſiſted in Frocks, Waſtcoats and Silk Stockings; they made her a preſent of a great quantity of them, of different colours: But her *Major Domo* Mayor who religiouſly obſerved the *Spaniſh* gravity, deſpiſed the preſent, and ſo taking up a bundle of Silk Stockins, threw them at the heads of the Deputies of the Town.

Aveis de Saber, ſays he to them in a very furious tone, *que las Reynas de Eſpagna no teinen piernas*, that is to ſay,

I would have you to know that the Queens of Spain *have no Legs*; meaning, that they are ſo far elevated above others by vertue of their rank, that they have no Feet to touch the ground like the reſt of their Sex. However it was, the young Queen, who was not as yet acquainted with the niceties of the Spaniſh Language, took it in the literal ſenſe, and began to weep, ſaying 'that ſhe was fully determined to go back to '*Vienna*, and if ſhe had known before her de-'parture from thence that they deſign'd to cut 'off her legs, ſhe would rather have died, than 'ſtirred a foot.

It was no difficult matter to aſſure her of the contrary, and ſhe continued her Voyage.

When ſhe came to *Madrid* they told the King of this innocent ſimplicity of his Queen, he was ſo mightily pleaſed at the ſtory, that he vouchſafed to laugh a little at it, and this was the moſt extraordinary thing in the world for him to do, for whether it proceeded from affectation, or was the effect of his conſtitution, it was obſerved of him that he never laugh'd above thrice in all his Life.

The King ſhow'd a great reſpect for Father *Nitard* becauſe he was the Queen's Confeſſor, who repoſed an intire confidence in him, but whatever deſires ſhe had to ſee him advanced, he left him peaceably in his poſt, without conferring any other Dignities upon him, and he had unqueſtionably continued a long time in the ſame condition, if the King had not happned to die.

When that Prince found himſelf to be dangerouſly ill, and ſaw he could not bequeath the care

care of his Kingdoms to Cardinal *Sandoval*, upon whose management of affairs he always depended, because he was at that time extremely sick, and to say the truth, died but 20 hours after him; he made his will, wherein he ordered that the Queen his Spouse should be Regent of the Kingdom, and Governess of the young Prince, who was then four years and an half old, (*a*) he named the Cardinal of *Arragon*, Archbishop of *Toledo* and Inquisitor General; the Count of *Castrillo* President of *Castile*, the Count *de Penarauda*, *Don Cristoval Crespi* Chancellor of *Arragon*, and the Marquiss *d' Aytona*; to the end that these six Ministers should assist the Queen in her Councils; and thus the King died in the month of *September* 1665. (*b*)

The Queen resented the great loss she sustained with abundance of sorrow, but she had been still more sensible of it, if she had found her self in the condition of the other Queens of *Spain*, who are obliged to enter into a Convent, when they are Widows, unless the King orders the contrary before his decease; Nor was she insensible of the sweets of Governing. The first use she made of her Authority, was

(*a*) Since the time of *Don Loys de Haro*, the Kings of *Spain* have had no *Privado* or chief Minister: The Duke *di Medina de las Torres* had the management of the Northern affairs, and the Count *de Castrillo* of the rest.

(*b*) The six Ministers that composed the Junta, were those that were or should be Archbishop of *Toledo*, the President of *Castile*, Vice-Cancellor of *Arragon*, and Inquisitor General. And besides these a Grandee of *Spain*, and a Counsellor of State.

in favour of Father *Nitard*: For Don *Paſcal* of *Arragon* having been made Archbiſhop of *Toledo* and grand Inquiſitor, in the place of Cardinal *Sandoval*, the Queen ſent for him, and by her repeated importunities prevailed with him to quit the laſt of theſe two Dignities. (*c*) He could not be brought to comply with this requeſt without a great deal of trouble, for he almoſt choſe rather to be Inquiſitor General, than Archbiſhop of *Toledo*, although that Archbiſhoprick is worth 366 thouſand Crowns *per annum*.

But he was not able to refuſe the Queen a thing ſhe ſo paſſionately deſired, who as ſoon as ſhe ſaw her ſelf in a capacity to diſpoſe of that important charge, beſtow'd it upon her Confeſſor.

As ſhe engaged her ſelf in this affair of her own proper inclination, without conſulting any thing elſe but the deſire ſhe had to ſee him made ſuperior to the other Miniſters, ſo ſhe took occaſion to diſcourſe of it to them, who immediately began to murmur amongſt themſelves.

They read over the will of the late King, where they found it expreſly ordered that the Queen ſhould do nothing without conſulting their advice, and yet notwithſtanding all this precaution of the deceaſed, they ſaw with no little concern that ſhe had without ever communicating

(*c*) The Cardinal of *Arragon* being Grand Inquiſitor, and afterwards named to the Archbiſhoprick of *Toledo*, quitted the poſt of grand Inquiſitor, becauſe he could not not have two places in the Junto.

the

the matter to them, diſpoſed of one of the moſt conſiderable Offices in the Kingdom, and that to a meer ſtranger, who had been born and bred up in the (*d*) Lutheran Religion till he was 14 years of age. The deſire they had to preſerve their own authority, and the jealouſie which it is natural for all men to have of a Favourite, made them ſpeak very fiercely in the matter: However the Queen being informed of their diſcontent, took the true meaſures to appeaſe them. The charming manner of her deportment, and particularly the obliging things ſhe ſpoke to them upon this occaſion, prevailed with them to lay aſide their murmurs, ſo they agreed to diſpatch Letters of Naturalization for the Confeſſor, without which it was impoſſible for him to execute the office the Queen had given him.

Altho all thoſe difficulties that at firſt threatned to hinder the Elevation of Father *Nitard*, were removed without any great trouble, yet he did not fail to raiſe ſeveral ſecret enemies upon himſelf, who envied his growing Fortune. They beheld with a great diſdain and impatience the extraordinary confidence that the Queen repoſed in him, for ſhe determined nothing without adviſing with him, and ſo great was his credit, and intereſt with her that he durſt offer to reſolve things of the greateſt importance, without

(*d*) Altho 'tis very true that he had been formerly a Lutheran and it was objected to him, yet he vehemently denied it, becauſe it might have made him uncapable of that Office.

ſpeaking a word about them to the Queen.

Don *Juan* was one of thoſe that was the moſt offended at the advancement of Father *Nitard*: He was ſenſible that they would turn him out of all by little and little, upon this ſcore he gave way intirely to the Father Confeſſor, whom the Q. had made Counſellor of State; he then retired to *Conſuegra* the ordinary reſidence of the Grand Prior of *Caſtile*, of the order of *Malta*, and ſaid very imperiouſly, 'that after he had ſeen himſelf Preſident of the Privy Council of the King his Father, he could never endure a Companion that was ſo much his inferior. But the Queen who was wholly buſied in advancing her chief Miniſter, never diſquieted her ſelf with thinking what reflections people might make upon him, ſo that without taking the leaſt notice of Don *Juan*'s diſcontent, ſhe ſuffered him to depart, and he continued a long time without viſiting the Court, until the Queen ſent him particular orders at *Aranjues*, whither he was gone to divert himſelf, to come immediately for *Madrid* upon ſome important affairs, which ſhe was willing to communicate to him

He was the natural Son of King *Philip* IV. and a certain Actreſs whoſe name was *Maria Calderona*. He was privately brought up at *Ocana* near *Madrid*, and of all the natural Sons that King had, he only acknowledged him, whether it were becauſe he loved his Mother better than any of his other Miſtreſſes (and to ſay the truth ſhe was the moſt charming perſon in the world.) or becauſe Count *d' Olivarez* procured this good Fortune for him; for 'tis commonly given

given out that the Count had a Son named Don *Julian de Guſman*, whom he had a mind to own, and therefore uſed this artifice of perſwading the King to begin with *Don Juan*, that ſo he might follow his Example.

Whatever the matter was, *Philip* loved this young Prince very tenderly, altho ſome people ſuſpected he was the Son of the Duke of *Medina*, of the houſe of *Guſman*, who had formerly been paſſionately in love with the young *Calderona*, and was in his time the moſt accompliſht handſom Cavalier in *Spain*, and *Don Juan* very much reſembled him. But if ſome perſons were of this opinion, others could never believe it, eſpecially when they conſidered the great kindneſs and fatherly affection that the King had for him, and beſides reflected upon his extraordinary good qualities, which declared him to be worthy to be the Son of ſo great a Monarch. He was brave even to a contempt of all dangers whatever, gallant and agreeable, well-ſhaped, obliging, liberal, and a perſon of great honour; he had abundance of wit, and was maſter of a Genius that extended it ſelf to all Arts and Sciences. As there is ne're a Court in *Europe* where natural Sons are treated with ſuch advantageous diſtinctions as they are in *Spain*, ſo this Prince could ſcarce perceive that the unhappineſs of his birth did in the leaſt prejudice his advancement; and 'tis indeed a certain truth, that we ſee in this Country, the legitimate Sons bred up with thoſe that are not ſo in the ſame Father's houſe, without any diſtinction between one and the other. But this cuſtom is not altogether obſerved with relation

relation to the natural Sons of the Kings of *Spain*: For example, they never beſtow the title of *Infante* upon them, and *Don Juan* who paſſionately deſired to have it, uſed his utmoſt efforts to accompliſh it, but had not the fortune to ſucceed in his deſigns.

From the year 1643 the King had given him the Government of the *Low Countries*, (e) of *Burgundy* and *Charolois*, and he always enjoyed it, excepting the time when the Arch-duke *Leopold* governed there.

Don Juan contributed very much towards the reducing the Kingdom of *Naples* to the Spaniſh Obedience: He took *Piombino* and *Portolongone*, and in all his Campaigns he performed a world of actions that equally teſtified his bravery and conduct.

The King his Father having conceived no leſs an eſteem than tenderneſs for him, communicated to him the moſt weighty affairs of State, and choſe him to be chief of an Aſſembly of the chief Miniſters of his Kingdom.

He was ſcarcely arrived at *Madrid* but a Council was held, where he came to be informed that the King of *France* was reſolved to eſpouſe the intereſts of his Queen, to whom *Brabant* and ſome other ſtates of the *Low Countries* eſcheated by right of devolution, upon the death of the Infant *Don Balthazar* her Brother; that his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty had publiſhed a Manifeſto

(e) He held as his proper right the Government of the *Low Countries*.

wherein

wherein he proved the juſtice of his claim, and that not thinking himſelf obliged to conſume any time in unprofitable conteſtations, he had turned his arms towards that ſide of the Country; that he had marched his Troops with incredible diligence, and made conſiderable conqueſts as ſoon as ever he appeared. Upon a ſerious examination of the preſent ſtate of the Monarchy, they were convinced that it was impoſſible at the ſame time to maintain a war againſt *France* and *Portugal*, and that it was neceſſary for them to lay hold of a certain conjuncture that made a very plauſible appearance; that *Don Alphonſo* King of *Portugal*, having by his extravagant conduct loſt the hearts of his people, was diſpoſſeſt of the Government, and his Subjects freed from the Allegiance they ow'd him; that the Infanta *Don Pedro* his Brother had taken upon him the adminiſtration of affairs; that things of this conſiderable importance could neither be begun nor ended without ſome diſturbance, during which they muſt have occaſion for their own Troops, and therefore if it was judged expedient they ſhould lay hold of this opportunity to advance propoſals for a peace.

After every one had delivered his own opinion of the matter, the Queen came to this concluſion. A Letter was diſpatched to the Marquiſs *de Liche*, who was at that time Priſoner of war at *Lisbon*, wherein he had all neceſſary inſtructions given him. In fine, he managed the affair ſo dexterouſly, that the Regent *Don Pedro* liſtened favourably to the propoſals, and ſo a treaty of peace was concluded on the 13th. of *Jan.* 1668.

This

This news was entertained at *Madrid* with a great deal of satisfaction, because the affairs of *Flanders* grew every day worse and worse, and it was necessary to take some speedy measures to preserve it, or else to abandon it for good and all. New levies of Souldiers were ordered in *Gallicia* and elsewhere, and the Queen cast her eyes upon *Don Juan* to send him thither to command the Troops; for besides that no body was more capable of so great a trust than he was, she had observed that during the little stay he made at *Madrid*, his aversion to F. *Nitard* daily increased, and this reason alone was sufficient to incline her to resolve upon his removal. She was not able to indure those biting reflections which *Don Juan* by way of raillery very liberally bestowed upon the Father Confessor. One time among the rest when the Ministers demanded of him who was fit to send against the King of *France*. 'I am 'clearly of opinion, says he, that we had best send 'Father *Nitard*, he is a Saint to whom Heaven 'can refuse nothing; the post wherein we behold 'him at present is an undeniable proof of those 'miracles, which he can command upon all oc-'casions.

The Confessor answered, with a very melancholly air, 'That he was of a Profession which 'taught him to hope every thing from the divine 'mercy, but that it did not belong to his function 'to be a General of an Army. Oh my dear 'Father, replies *Don Juan*, and don't we see 'your reverence every day employed in things 'that are full as unsuitable to your profession.

As

As I ſaid before, it was reſolved to ſend the Prince with the new ſupplies to *Flanders*, and a recruit of nine hundred thouſand Crowns, with which they furniſhed him out of the ſilver that was brought in the Gallions.

Neceſſary orders were likewiſe diſpatched to *Cales*, and ſo the Admiral who had charge given of this Sum, ſet Sail with eight Veſſels, from thence at the ſame time when *Don Juan* was marching towards *Gorgne*, where the rendezvous was appointed to be.

The *French* Fleet cruiſed upon the Coaſts of *Gallicia*, and was compoſed of 36 Veſſels and 6 Fireſhips. *Don Juan* finding his Forces much inferiour to the Enemy was not willing to hazard all in a fight, where in all probability he could not avoid a total defeat. Therefore he thought it more adviſed to ſend his Troops in ſmall bodies to *Flanders*, where they arrived without any danger.

The formidable power of his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty not only alarm'd the *Spaniard*, but the *Engliſh* and *Dutch*, who after a bloody war at laſt concluded a peace at *Breda* in 1667. and having ceaſt from all acts of Hoſtility towards one another, entred into a League, in the beginning of 1668. to oblige the King of *Spain* to accept of one of the two alternatives propoſed by the King of *France*, who ſtill perſiſted in his Offers.

After their Example the Archbiſhop of *Triers*, the Duke of *Bavaria*, the Elector *Palatine*, and Duke *Erneſt Auguſtus* of *Brunſwick* Biſhop of *Oſnabruck*, concerted their reſolutions for the common

common ſafety, and made a League, whereby they obliged themſelves to endeavour the adjuſting the differences between *France* and *Spain*, or elſe to declare war againſt either of the two Crowns that ſhould refuſe their mediation, and act againſt the Treaty. The Pope likewiſe entred into the League, and a peace was concluded at *Aix la Chapelle*.

But theſe things were not ſo ſpeedily determined, but that other matters of conſequence happened at *Madrid* and other places, which ſtrangely perplexed thoſe perſons that were intereſted and concerned in them. *Don Juan* as was before mentioned, was at *Corogne* upon the point of imbarquing himſelf, when he received certain informations of the death of *Joſeph Mallades* a Gentleman of *Arragon* whom he entirely loved. It was told him to his unexpreſſible amazement, that he had been ſecretly arreſted at *Madrid* about eleven a clock at night; and that by an order of the Queen written by her own hand, he was ſtrangled two hours after. The great care they took to keep this execution private only contributed to make it ſpread the faſter, and it was not doubted but that the Queen ſacrificed this unfortunate Gentleman to the ſecurity of her Confeſſor.

Don Juan was extremely concerned at the tragical death of a perſon whom he loved ſo well, and yet more enraged at the injury which he imagined himſelf to have directly received from Father *Nitard*, reſolved not to go to *Flanders*. 'They would never have expoſed me to 'the puiſſance of the moſt Chriſtian King, (ſays 'he

End. right

'he to *Don Diego de Valaſco*, for whom he had an 'extraordinary affection) but only with a deſign 'to compleat my ruine. They will certainly 'take care to keep back thoſe ſuccours from 'time to time, of which I ſhall ſtand in need, 'and whatſoever good conduct I may uſe in the 'management of the war, there is no queſtion to 'be made, but that they will make me anſwera-'ble for all the ill ſucceſs we meet. You ſee I 'am now at the port, and yet they have executed 'a man who was guilty of no other crime than 'of wearing the character of my friend. What 'will they do then if I were once in *Flanders*, 'all my friends would undoubtedly find them-'ſelves expoſed to the malice and hatred of the 'new Favourite.

He ſearched the moſt plauſible pretences he could think of, to excuſe his going for *Flanders*. For ſome days he feigned himſelf to be indiſpoſed, and ſent word to the Queen that he was troubled with a defluxion on his breaſt, that the Phyſicians had made him apprehend the fatal conſequences of it if he undertook ſo long a voyage, and therefore he beſeeched her to diſpenſe with him. An alteration ſo little expected made a great noiſe at Court, and gave no ſmall mortification to her Majeſty and Father *Nitard*. They eaſily gueſſed at the cauſe, and if they had imagined the Prince was no farther off, perhaps they had not ſentenced *Malladas* to die ſo ſoon. The Q. ordered *Don Juan* to reſign his employ to the Conſtable of *Caſtile*, who was to go to *Flanders* in his room, and alſo commanded him to go immediately to *Conſuegra*, without preſum-

ing

ing to come nearer than 20 League of *Madrid*, which he accordingly obey'd. But it ſeems this obedience was not enough to ſatisfie the Queen's Indignation, who was ſo exaſperated at him, that in *Auguſt* 1668. ſhe carried into the Council with her own hands a Decree againſt the Prince; wherein ſhe repreſented to them 'the diſobedi-'ence he had ſhown at ſo preſſing a juncture, and 'the reaſons which ought to have obliged him 'to ſet ſail, altho the indiſpoſition he pretended 'had been really true, that a lye from a Subject 'to his Soveraign was always thought worthy 'of the higheſt puniſhments, and eſpecially under 'ſuch important circumſtances.

Don Juan was informed of all that this Decree contained againſt him, and he was the more ſenſibly concerned at this ill uſage, ſince he had treſpaſſed ſo much upon moderation, in not making a louder complaint of the death of *Malladas*.

The man that ſerved altogether to eſtrange his inclinations from the Queen, was a Captain, whoſe name was Don *Petro de Pinilla*, who having asked leave to ſpeak with the Queen, threw himſelf at her feet, and entertained her an hour in private without any bodies knowing what he ſaid to her. It is not doubted by what happened afterwards but that he diſcovered ſomething of importance againſt Don *Bernardo Pategno*, Brother to Don *Juan*'s chief Secretary becauſe he was ſeized the next morning with 2 of his Servants. Theſe informations were kept ſo ſecret that no one knew the matters they contained: The Marqueſs *de Salinas*, Captain

End. right

Captain of the *Spaniſh* Guards, received orders from the Q. to poſt away with fifty of the reformed Officers, and arreſt the Prince at *Conſuegra*; but altho he uſed the utmoſt diligence in this affair, yet he was not able to find him. This, as it happened, did not prove unlucky to him, for Don *Juan* had about him at that time a great number of his Friends and Dõmeſticks, who would all have hazarded their lives to preſerve him from being taken; but by his great prudence he avoided the expoſing any ſingle man of them, for being advertiſed of what had paſſed he withdrew in time, and only left a Letter behind him to the Queen, dated *Octob.* 21. wherein he ſpoke to her with greater liberty than he had hitherto uſed. He there takes an occaſion to acquaint her, 'That he would have 'certainly gone for *Flanders*, if it had not been 'for the ſurprizing and tragical death of his 'friend *Malladas*, that he had all the reaſon in 'the world to believe that Father *Nitard* was the 'inſtrument and author of it, that ſo horrid an 'injuſtice cried out aloud for vengeance againſt 'the man that had committed it, that he found 'himſelf poſſeſt with an earneſt deſire to contribute what lay in his power towards the removal 'of ſo wicked a man, that he humbly beſeeched 'her both for the good of the Kingdom in general, as alſo for her Majeſties glory to conſent to 'his baniſhment; that he hop'd he ſhould never 'be conſtrained to have recourſe to any other 'methods than thoſe of prayer to chaſe him out 'of that place, where his preſence was become 'odious to all the world; that he found himſelf

'obliged to go and ſeek a Sanctuary againſt the 'violences of this ſtranger, and that this was a 'cruel neceſſity for a perſon of his quality; that 'he hoped her Majeſty would be pleaſed to 'make ſerious reflections upon the whole, and 'apply neceſſary remedies accordingly.

The reading of this Letter awakened all the reſentment and indignation that the Queen had naturally to *Don Juan*: She flew into the greateſt paſſion imaginable, and had made it appear in a terrible manner, if the Grandees and People had not teſtified leſs inclination for her. 'Twas a new ſubject of diſpleaſure to the Queen and Father *Nitard* to ſee that all the world agreed to ſet themſelves free from his Miniſtry, and that they had the hardineſs to tax him publickly with the murder of *Malladas*, and the impriſonment of *Patigno*.

This obliged the Queen to ſet forth a Declaration, wherein ſhe aſſured the world that both thoſe perſons came to *Madrid* to execute the wicked deſigns of *Don Juan*, that ſhe was fully inform'd of the whole by their own proper confeſſion, and that ſhe had never proceeded ſo far as to take away *Malladas*'s life if ſhe had not been aſſured of his crime.

At the ſame time Father *Nitard* printed and publiſhed a ſort of an Apology, in which he accuſes *Don Juan* with having frequently endeavour'd to aſſaſſinate him; he ſpoke of this deſign as a thing beyond conteſt, and declared his own innocence with relation to the death of *Malladas*, and the impriſonment of *Patigno*. He pretended to give an undeniable proof of this aſſertion, in alledging

End. right

alledging that when the former was ſtrangled, he was ſaying over his Breviary along with Frier *Buſtos*; and that when the ſecond was arreſted, he was ſetting his Papers in order in his Cabinet. Then he took occaſion to enlarge upon the Nobleneſs of his birth, and upon the conſiderable ſervices which his Anceſtors had done for the Emperours. This Article only ſerved to ſet people on work to examine the obſcurity of his family. He addreſſed this writing to the Queen, and ſhe for her part forgot nothing that might make his atteſtation be the better believed.

Some time after ſhe preſented to the Council a ſecond complaint againſt the Prince, charging him with having ~~taken the Horoſcope of~~ *Flanders*; in which 'twas eaſy to diſcover the high and mighty expectations with which he fed his ambition. That ſuch an inſufferable curioſity had been always puniſhed as a crime of High Treaſon, that it was not only neceſſary to examine the fault, but alſo the quality of the perſon that committed it, that the debate was about a man of deſign, who could by no means pretend to ſin out of ignorance; and an ungrateful rebellious Subject loaded with favours and rewards by the Crown; that it was abſolutely requiſite to chaſtize him, for fear leſt a connivance ſhould authorize his wicked deſigns, and put him in a capacity of accompliſhing them.

The Prince had too many friends, not to find ſome amongſt them who had the courage to defend him; there was ſcarce any thing to be ſeen in all manner of company but multitude of writings, the bitterneſs of which only ſerved to

animate the intereſted parties, and make them more inveterate.

Thoſe that appear'd in behalf of *Don Juan*, maintained that he was incapable of forming ſo mean and low a deſign as that of aſſaſſinating Father *Nitard*; that if it had ever entred into his imagination, the execution of it could have been no difficult matter; that the difference was only about a Stranger of an Eccleſiaſtic, without Friends or Relations, ſupported by a Q. who ought to have abandoned him to vengeance, when ſhe was informed of his wicked conduct; that the beſt proof one can bring to ſhow that the Prince had no inclination to do any ſuch thing was, becauſe it was not done; that far from endeavouring to take him off privately, he had demanded in publick to have him removed from his Miniſtry, and that for attempting his removal, he expoſed himſelf to all the indignation of the Queen: That at the bottom, Father *Nitard* would have no reaſon to complain of his ill uſage, ſince he was permitted to retire with the puniſhment only of a penſion of 60000 Crowns *per annum*, which he has hitherto enjoyed, beſides ſome other private benevolences that don't appear; that ſo conſiderable a Revenue one would think might content the Ambition of a ſimple Eccleſiaſtic; who was himſelf of ſo vindicative a nature, that he would fain have aſſaſſinated the Prince at *Barcelona* and *Conſuegra*; that it was not the effect of any particular reſentment which made *Don Juan* preſs the Queen ſo earneſtly to ſend him home to his own Country, being generous enough to forget any private injuries; but that he was too

good

End. right

good a Subject to bear any longer with a man, whoſe raſh and violent counſels might ſome time or other prove the occaſion of a general revolution in the Kingdom of *Spain*. To this they added ſeveral other things, which I ſhall paſs over in ſilence.

The Court and the City were divided upon this point, every one engaging himſelf in the affair, either as his own ſentiments led him, or as he was influenced by the reports of others. Nay the Court Ladies entred into the quarrel, and for a diſtinction of the party they embraced, ſome were called *Auſtrians*, and others *Nitardines*.

Thus I have given you a Relation of what paſt at *Madrid*, during the time that *Don Juan* kept himſelf at a diſtance from it, and approached to *Barcelona*. The Queen was ignorant what way he took, and her diſquietudes doubled upon her, when ſhe conſidered with her ſelf what dangerous effects an affair of this nature might carry along with it, eſpecially ſeeing it began with ſo much heat. When he was arrived there he writ a very reſpectful Letter to the Queen, but did not conceal the reſolution he had taken, to demand of her conſtantly the removal of her Confeſſor; he adviſed her to it with very forcible reaſons, but they only provoked her the more againſt him, and ſhe could never ſuffer her ſelf to be perſwaded, that ſhe ought to deprive her ſelf of the man in whom ſhe repoſed ſo intire a confidence, and for whom ſhe preſerved ſo great an affection. 'She found that *Don Juan* med-
'dled with an affair ſhe had no inclination to,

'and that ſince the Council which the late King 'had aſſigned her, could find nothing to except 'againſt the Father's conduct, ſhe was not obliged 'to gratifie an averſion, which the Prince had ſo 'injuſtly entertained againſt him; that it would 'be for her Glory, to teſtifie to the world the 'firmneſs of her mind in this rencounter; and 'that if ſhe abandoned her Servants at the firſt 'Chimerical objections that were raiſed againſt 'them, it would be a dangerous matter for anyone 'to ſerve her. In fine, the extream deſire ſhe had to keep Father *Nitard* with her, furniſhed her with ſuch ſpecious reaſons, that no body durſt combat them.

The Father on his part knew not where to turn himſelf, he was pleaſed without queſtion to ſee himſelf beloved and protected by ſo great a Queen, and to enjoy an abſolute power next to her; but on the other hand, he was not without ſenſible emotions when he conſidered what an enemy he had to deal with: He was apprehenſive of being poiſoned or aſſaſſinated, and tho the Council had not as yet ſpoken againſt him, yet he was not ignorant that he was but ill beloved by all the Miniſters. and that if ever it was his fortune to be turned out, the greateſt part of the Grandees would commend the courage and conſtancy of *Don Juan*. Theſe reflexions ſo palled his Spirits, that he often went and threw himſelf at her Majeſty's feet, with tears in his eyes, humbly to beg the favour of her to ſuffer him to depart: but ſhe always aſſur'd him of the continuance of her protection, and forbad him any more to mention that thing, which

End. right

which gave her ſo much pain and uneaſineſs.

The Prince did not content himſelf with writing to the Queen, but writ alſo to the chief Miniſters, in ſuch vehement terms, that they evidently ſaw what it was he deſired to do with the Father Confeſſor, and likewiſe that he would never depart from his reſolutions. He pray'd them to ſecond him with her Majeſty, and to repreſent to her, of what a mighty conſequence it would be to the State, to ſend this ſtranger home.

Theſe Letters mightily augmented the troubles of F. *Nitard*, his friends were afraid that *Don Juan* would betake himſelf to violent methods, and his enemies had the ſatisfaction to conſider that the Prince would employ his utmoſt efforts to turn him out of *Spain*. But thoſe that beheld the whole Scene calmly and without paſſion, judged that the Queens obſtinacy and the opiniatrete of *Don Juan*, would neceſſarily involve the Kingdom in ſome great diſorders, where every thing would be equally confounded. The Queen fell into the greateſt paſſion imaginable, whenever the matter was mentioned to her, and finding her perſon to be no where elſe in ſafety, ſhe order'd the Cavalry to come to *Pardo*, which is a Royal Palace within two leagues of *Madrid*.

'Tis certain, that if ſhe had had leſs fears upon her, ſhe had at that moment declared *Don Juan* Rebel. She communicated this deſign to her Father Confeſſor, who approved of this way of procedure well enough, but others that were conſulted about it, oppoſed it with all

their might. They repreſented to her, 'That 'in caſe this was done, the Prince would no 'longer obſerve any meaſures with her, that 'perhaps he waited for a favourable pretence to 'declare himſelf; that he was brave in his own 'perſon, well beloved by his friends, and be-'ſides had the people on his ſide; that leſs 'cauſes have occaſioned great revolutions; that 'there was nothing left but good uſage and gen-'tleneſs that could make him return to his duty, 'or at leaſt convince him that nothing had been 'omitted to inſpire him with a true ſenſe of it. Altho this advice was extremely oppoſite to the Queens reſentments, and by her good will ſhe would never have treated with a Prince, by whom ſhe ſuppoſed herſelf to be injured, yet ſhe was at laſt perſwaded to follow this good counſel. So ſhe wrote a very obliging Letter to him, wherein ſhe conjured him to return to *Conſuegra*, and ſhe engaged her Royal word for the ſecurity of his perſon.

Don Juan made ſome difficulty at firſt of obeying theſe orders, whether it were, becauſe he was apprehenſive, as he told the Queen, of putting himſelf into the hands of Father *Nitard*, whom he had but lately eſcaped, or for ſome other reaſons that are unknown: but the Duke *d'Oſſone*, who was then at *Barcelona*, ſpoke to him with ſo much zeal, and ſo vigorouſly ſollicited him to obey her Majeſty's orders, that he ſubmitted to his reaſons, and ſo departed with three Companies of Horſe, which the Duke had given him for his guard.

The

The Queen having received advice of it, contrived to give him ſome affronts upon the road. She knew that he was to paſs through *Arragon*, and therefore ſhe writ to the States of that Kingdom to ſhow *Don Juan* no manner of reſpect, nay, even to ſeek out ſome opportunities to diſguſt him; but herein ſhe was ill obey'd. The States ſent her word back again, that they could not diſpence with themſelves from paying to the Son of the late King, and the Brother of their preſent Monarch, thoſe devoirs that were due to his quality and merits. To ſay the truth, they acquitted themſelves herein with the greateſt zeal; and when he approached *Saragoſſa*, all the inhabitants went out above two leagues to meet him on the way. The preſs was ſo great that he had much ado to get through it, they cried all with one voice, *Let the King live, and the Lord* Don Juan, *let him always have the better of his enemies, and curſes light on the Jeſuit that perſecutes him.*

Every one ſcatter'd flowers before him, ſuch as the ſeaſon of the year furniſhed them with, and ſprinkled him with perfumed waters; the Ladies better apparell'd than they uſed to be on the moſt ſolemn days, made a double lane for him with their Coaches; the air was filled with nothing but the benedictions and praiſes they beſtow'd upon him: in a word, the joy was univerſal in this great City.

The Queen and Father Confeſſor, who received a faithful relation of the whole proceedings, were ſenſibly concerned, ſhe to ſee the contempt wherewith her orders were entertain'd,

tain'd, he to find himſelf ſo inveterately hated by the people.

The report of *Don Juan*'s extraordinary reception ſpread it ſelf as far as *Madrid*; and amongſt ſeveral perſons that receiv'd it with joy and ſatisfaction, there were many that apprehended ſome diſorder at the return of the Prince.

In order to prevent thoſe evils that ſeemed to threaten them, the Regidors and other Magiſtrates of that City aſſembled on the firſt of *February*. They ſent four of their body to the Preſident of *Caſtile*, to repreſent to him the great miſchief that might be occaſioned by *Don Juan*'s arrival with his Troops, at a time when the Court was ſo weak, and the people ſo inſolent and diſpoſed for a revolt; that notwithſtanding the Prince was well affectioned towards them, yet he would not be able to prevent the lamentable effects they had reaſon to fear.

The Preſident waited upon the Queen, and the Council immediately met, where it was ordered to diſpatch a Courier to *Don Juan*, with her Majeſty's Orders to ſend back his Guards without delay.

He received the Order, but haſtened his march, making the Courier follow him two days, on the third he gave him a Receipt for his Order, and ſent him back without any anſwer.

In the mean time that he delay'd the Couriers coming back, they were alarm'd at Court with the ill ſucceſs of his Voyage, and their uneaſineſs was much increas'd in the Palace, when they

ſaw

ſaw him ſent back without any Letter. Some of the Lords went thereupon to find out the Preſident, to deſire him to tell the Queen, that they were ready to undertake any thing in the world for her ſervice. The Cavalry was drawn up together, and preparations were making at *Madrid* to ſuſtain a ſiege, the event whereof appeared very doubtful, altho they had to deal with a Prince who was only attended by 300 Horſe.

'Twas in effect this Guard that occaſioned the greateſt trouble; the Queen ordered the Marqueſs *de Penalva* to aſſemble the reformed Officers together, with thoſe that ſhould offer themſelves, to go upon this occaſion, and tell the Prince, that her Majeſty ordered him to ſend back the three Troops of Horſe, he had brought along with him.

The Marqueſs *de Penalva* was diſpoſed to obey, but he demanded an order of the Council Royal, and the Secretary of State refuſed to expedite it, alledging that the Queen could do nothing without the Council of the Government, and that ſhe had never conſulted them about this affair. The Queen being provoked, ſent the Secretary word, 'That he ought ſeri-'ouſly to conſider what difficulties he was go-'ing to ſtart at ſo ill an exigence, and how lit-'tle they were to the purpoſe. The Cardinal *Arragon*, the Count *de Peñaranda*, and the Vice-Chancellor came to wait upon her Majeſty; they repreſented to her, that the Secretary was in the right, and gave the Preſident of *Caſtile* a ſevere Reprimand for giving way by his counſels

ſels to an Order that might have produced very evil conſequences.

They reſolved at laſt not to take up arms; and to diſſipate the apprehenſions the people were under at *Madrid*, 'twas publickly proclaimed that *Don Juan* had ſent back his guards, or that if he had not done it as yet; yet he would ſend them back at the firſt warning.

The Queen having no hopes at all of ſeeing her ſelf obeyed by force, betook her ſelf to more gentle methods, to try if ſhe could by that conduct oblige *Don Juan* to ſend back his Soldiers: She writ to him by *Don Diego de Velaſco*, who was his great Confident, and the Letter was very courteous and civil.

The Prince, who came ſecretly to *Madrid* to diſcover the ſtate of affairs, the diſpoſitions of his friends, and what he might be able to effect there, very reſolutely ſent the Queen word again, that there lay no obligation upon him to expoſe himſelf to the revenge of Father *Nitard*, therefore he poſitively demanded to have him turned out of the Kingdom; that after this were once done, none of all her Subjects ſhould pay a more dutiful ſubmiſſion to her Orders than himſelf.

This was to demand a thing of the Queen, which ſhe had no manner of inclination to grant; The Nuncio *Borromée*, the Council of State, and the Grandees gave themſelves a great deal of trouble to no purpoſe to adjuſt the matter. In the mean time the Prince appeared ſo firm in his reſolution, that all the world judged it would go very happy for the Confeſſor, if

if he could eſcape with his life. He himſelf was ſenſible enough of the danger he was in, ſo he redoubled his importunities with the Queen to ſuffer him to depart. She returned him no anſwer but by her Tears and Sighs, inſomuch that he choſe rather to expoſe his own life to the utmoſt extremity, than diſoblige her by leaving her ſervice.

News arrived, that the Prince was come with his Troops to *Torrejon-dardos*, which is but four leagues from *Madrid*. Thoſe that were of the Queens party were mightily diſquieted at it, and ſhe her ſelf was more afflicted than the reſt. They heard her ſeveral times repeat theſe words, *Oh Heavens! this good Father will be the firſt Sacrifice.*

The Council of the Government met, and deſired the Nuncio to carry *Don Juan* the Letter the Pope had written to him, wherein he conjured him to preſerve thoſe ſentiments of reſpect and ſubmiſſion for the Queen, which a ſubject ow'd his Soveraign.

The Nuncio went to find him. and came back about midnight. No body almoſt in this great City went to bed, but attended his return with impatience, for they knew the occaſion of his journey; and the people ran up and down the ſtreets in great bodies, asking each other who they were for. The news the Nuncio brought back with him did not at all pleaſe the Queen, he told her that he had earneſtly requeſted the Prince to go to *Guadalajara*, or at leaſt to ſtay where he was a few days, that new meaſures might be taken to ſatisfie him, but that the Prince

Prince refuſed both the one and the other, and ſaid, that if on the *Monday* following the Confeſſor would not go out of the Gate, he would throw him out at the Window, and enter *Madrid* on purpoſe to put it in execution. It was afterwards known, that this Negotiation paſſed after another manner, *viz.* that the Prince had agreed to let Father *Nitard* be with the Queen, provided ſhe would grant ſome advantages to him which he propoſed; but that the Nuncio, who had no kindneſs for the Father, was reſolved to break the Treaty all to pieces by concealing the favourable inclinations of *Don Juan.*

Father *Nitard* was informed of all that happened, he Confeſſed the Queen the next morning, and afterwards threw himſelf at her feet, beſeeching her not to expoſe him to the outrages which he might expect to ſuffer from an incenſed Prince, that his life was at ſtake, and that there was no other way to preſerve it, but by ſubmitting to the preſent neceſſity. The Queen anſwered him with abundance of tears, that ſhe was not able to conſent to his removal, that he ſhould not diſquiet himſelf at all, for ſhe would take care to ſet things to rights again.

He was well enough ſatisfied of her own good will for him, but he queſtioned whether her power anſwered her inclinations; nevertheleſs he reſolved at laſt that he would be torn in pieces by the people, before he would leave *Madrid* without her Order. So he tarried with her, having all the apprehenſions upon him that a man,

man, who every moment expects his death, can be capable of.

These affairs came to this upshot at last, that on *Monday* the 25th of *February*, the great Court of the Palace was filled with numbers of people of all conditions, who in a disorderly manner, that was not easie to be suppressed, loudly demanded to have the Confessor discarded without any more delay, 'That no body was ig-'norant of what *Don Juan* had said to the Nun-'cio, that the City would go near to be expo-'sed to plunder and desolation for the sake of a 'Jesuit who was a stranger, and had no other merit 'to recommend him but his pleasing the Queen.

The Duke *d' Infantado* and the Marquess *de Liche* seeing such a vast multitude assembled together, ran to the Queens Apartment, who was then in Bed: She had not closed her Eyes all night long, and had not enjoyed one moment of rest, having it seems received some information of what had past. One of her Ladies, whose name was *Donna Eugenia*, was upon her knees by her to comfort her in these extremities. *Alas*, said the Queen to her, *what signifies my Grandeur, and these high Titles they give me, since I am not allowed the liberty to keep the good man any longer with me, upon whom the consolation of my life depends? There is never a Lady in* Spain *but has the priviledge of keeping her Chaplain, and no body finds fault with it. But I am the only woman in the Kingdom, that is persecuted upon this score, and whose Confessor must be taken away from her by force.*

The Council sate immediately because the disorder still increased in the City, and it was

to

to be feared that it would augment more and more. Some of the Miniſters, who were in the Queens intereſts, were for finding out ſome expedient to hinder the departure of Father *Nitard*; but others pretended there was no room left for an accommodation, and ſaid that if the buſineſs was any longer delayed, all would be loſt: that *Don Juan* would ſoon enter *Madrid*, and then Friends and Enemies would fare alike, that their debate at preſent was only about a poor Eccleſiaſtick, whom the people hated even to madneſs, and never mentioned without the bittereſt execrations, altho at the bottom he never deſerved them, and was an honeſt man.

Her Majeſty happening to be in Bed, when the Duke *d' Infantado*, and the Marqueſs *de Liche* demanded to ſpeak with her, they could not ſee her, becauſe it is the cuſtom in *Spain* for no body to go into the Queens Chamber when ſhe is gone to Bed. So they went to the *Cavacuela*, which is a place under ground belonging to the Palace, where the * Secretaries of State abide. They ſpoke to *Don Blaſco de Loyola*, and would have given him a memoir to deliver to her Majeſty; but the great haſte they made in running up to the Queens Apartment, and afterwards in hurrying down ſtairs again to the Privy Council, together with the great ado they made to get in, cauſed ſeveral perſons that met them, to follow after them, ſo that when they

* Who is called in *Spain* Secretary *del Deſpacho* Univerſal.

entred

entred the Chamber where the Miniſters were aſſembled, to inform themſelves of what had paſt, * they found a great rabble of people who entred along with them, and began to cry out all together, *Deliver us from the Jeſuit, and ſend him packing.*

The Miniſters continued a while ſurprized, and looking upon one another, while the Rabble renewed their importunities, adding at the ſame time ſome menaces againſt thoſe that ſhould offer to ſtand by the Father Confeſſor.

Without demurring any longer upon the matter, they reſolved to ſend *Don Blaſco de Loyola* to wait upon the Queen with a Decree, with which they entruſted him. He brought her word that the Council had determin'd that Father *Nitard* ſhould depart *Madrid* within three hours warning. The Order was already drawn and the Queen diſcovered no emotion in reading it; ſhe ſigned it with great ſteadineſs of mind, and without ſhedding one tear; but being deſirous that her Confeſſors removal ſhould not ſeem to be extorted by force, but that he made an honourable retreat, ſhe procured an Order of Leave to be drawn up in theſe words,

Whereas F. John Everard Nitard, *of the Society of* Jeſus, *my Confeſſor, Miniſter of State, and Inquiſitor General, has humbly intreated me to give him leave to withdraw himſelf out of theſe Kingdoms; altho I am fully ſatisfied not only of his integrity and his other*

* + Theſe two Lords were not of the Junta of the Government.

good qualities, but alſo of the great zeal and application wherewith he has always ſerved the Crown; yet nevertheleſs upon the account of his earneſt ſupplications, as well as for divers other important reaſons, I have given him my permiſſion to go where he pleaſes: And ſince I deſire that this may be done in a manner that is ſuitable to his merits and dignity, I have thought it expedient to give him his choice of going in the quality of Embaſſador Extraordinary either to Germany *or* Rome, *with all the emoluments and advantages that belong to that charge. Given at* Madrid *the 25th of* February, 1669.

As ſoon as *Don Blaſco* was gone, the Queen uſing no farther violence with her ſelf to keep in her tears, ſhed them very plentifully, and caſting herſelf upon the bed with all the grief imaginable cryed out inceſſantly, *Alas! alas! to what purpoſe is it to be a Queen and Regent!* On the other hand the Council commanded the Cardinal of *Arragon*, and the Count *de Penaranda* to go and acquaint Father *Nitard* with the order her Majeſty had ſigned. He who had long expected this tempeſt, ſeemed not to be ſurprized at the News, but was perſwaded by the Nuncio's importunities not to go to Council as he had deſigned, for he told him the people were ſo highly incenſed againſt him, that he would infallibly run the riſque of being torn to pieces, if he offer'd to ſhew himſelf.

The Superiors of the Jeſuits were come to wait upon him to prepare him for this fatal ſtroak. The Admiral of *Caſtile* came thither alſo, telling him with great fierceneſs and that freedom of Converſation, that ſo peculiarly diſtinguiſhes

diſtinguiſhes Perſons of Quality from others, that he had drawn all theſe Misfortunes upon himſelf by his own ill meaſures, which he there particularly enumerated to him. The Father who had been never accuſtomed to theſe Reprimands, replyed that this diſcourſe was not fit for an Inquiſitor General to hear before all the world.

When the Cardinal of *Arragon* arrived, he found the Father extremely afflicted. The neceſſity of parting immediately without ſo much as taking leave of the Queen his Miſtriſs toucht him to the quick. The Cardinal was not able to refrain tears at beholding it, whether from a conſideration of the incertainty of humane affairs that have no ſure Foundation, or elſe from the particular eſteem he always had for him. He offer'd to furniſh him with a thouſand Piſtols for his voyage, and the Count *de Penaranda* with letters of Exchange for thirty thouſand Ducats, but he would not accept of them, ſaying, that as he came thither a poor Eccleſiaſtic, ſo he knew well enongh how to depart from thence under the ſame circumſtances.

The Cardinal comforted him as well as he was able, and told him that he would accompany him to *Fuencaral*, then he withdrew to leave him at liberty to ſet his own things in order, and towards the Evening came to take him up in his Coach, which was well guarded: He asked him immediately whether all his things were ready, I have no other things, replies the Father, ſave only my Habit and Breviary, ſo they departed, being accompanied by all the Officers of the In-

quiſition. As ſoon as ever the people ſaw Father *Nitard*, they fell a crying and throwing ſtones at him, and followed him with Curſes and Imprecations: It happen'd well for him that he was in company with a perſon of the Cardinal's Dignity, for otherwiſe he had been expoſed to the fury of the rabble. The grief that ſo rude a treatment poſſeſt him with, obliged him ſeveral times to ſay with tears in his eyes, that God had now tryed him by throwing him into this furnace of tribulations, and that he ſhould be very happy to be found good alloy. As he paſſed through the ſtreets, he ſaid to the people who purſued him with contumelious reproaches, Farewel my Children, farewel, I am a going.

He was not willing to accept of the Embaſſy to *Rome*, altho the Queen writ a very obliging Letter to him at *Fuencaral*, and reiterated the offer to him. She ſent him two thouſand Piſtoles for his Voyage to *Rome*, ſome Precious Stones, and an augmentation of two thouſand Crowns by way of penſion. When he was gone, his Domeſtics found a Hair-cloth and ſome Diſciplines in his Cabinet.

When there was now no longer any fear of diſpleaſing the Father Confeſſor by ſhowing reſpect to *Don Juan*, every one went to ſee him at *Conſuegra*, and teſtified their zeal for him. He wrote to the Queen to thank her for ſending away his inveterate enemy, as well as that of the State, and pray'd her to give him leave to come to Court, and kiſs the Kings hands. But inſtead of granting him that requeſt, ſhe order'd him to retire a dozen leagues from

from *Madrid*. He was ſenſibly toucht at this unexpected ſeverity, and complained of it as of a ſort of baniſhment. Nevertheleſs this did not hinder him from demanding by Letters, as well to the Queen as the Council, to take the public good into their conſideration, and to fill Father *Nitard*'s places with perſons that were capable of diſcharging them well: he repreſented to them, that thoſe dignities ought to be taken from him, ſince it was equally as important a matter to hinder him from coming back again into the Kingdom, as it was neceſſary to make him leave it.

He demanded alſo that they ſhould take away the Place of Preſident of *Caſtile* from the Biſhop of *Placentia*, ſince he was the man that iſſued out the Decree, by virtue of which *Mallada* was ſtrangled; and that the Marqueſs *d'Aytone*, his capital enemy, ſhould no longer have the liberty of paſſing his judgment in thoſe affairs that concerned him.

The Queen was very much offended at the manner wherein the Prince wrote to her, and yet more enraged at what had happened, ſent him a very unpallatable Meſſage, and order'd him forthwith to diſcharge his guards, as he had engag'd to do.

He complained of this to the Cardinal of *Arragon* and the Nuncio, giving them as well as the Queen to underſtand, that he could not part with his friends that accompanied him, till ſuch time as he was certainly informed that Father *Nitard* was out of the Kingdom, becauſe he had ſtill reaſon to fear ſome miſchief from that quarter.

Hereupon the Council met, and judged it convenient that the Cardinal ſhould go to *Guadalajara*, to engage the Prince to comply with the Queens deſires; he conſented to it at laſt and diſmiſt his guards, after the Cardinal had managed a ſort of a Treaty between that Princeſs and *Don Juan*, by which ſhe confirmed him in the government of the *Low Countries*, and paſſed her word that the Father Confeſſor ſhould quit his places; that the Preſident of *Caſtile* and the Marquis *d' Aytone* ſhould not meddle with the cognizance of thoſe things wherein the Prince was concerned; that as for himſelf, he might ſettle whereever he thought convenient; that they would take particular care to eaſe the people of their grievances; that no body ſhould be admitted to any of the Military Orders of *Caſtile*, who had not ſerved ten years by Land or by Sea; that the Pope ſhould be the Depoſitory of the Queens word for the ſecurity of the Prince. There were many other Articles beſides theſe, but not of the ſame weight and conſideration, all tending either to the ſatisfaction of *Don Juan*, or the eaſe of the people.

He forbore making his uſual remonſtrances till the month of *May*, at which time he received information that the Queen was ſetting on foot a Regiment of guards for the Kings ſervice, whereof ſhe had made the Marquis *d' Aytone* Collonel.

He wrote very ſharply to her about this matter, and repreſented to her, that it was againſt the cuſtom of the Kings of *Spain* to have any other guards

guards but the Inhabitants of *Madrid*, that this Regiment would be an everlaſting reproach to the City, and would occaſion abundance of ill effects, which he there enumerated at length. It is worth the obſerving, (and I could not forbear to take notice of it) that in this ſame Letter he complained, that the Queen did not anſwer him with her own hand; but uſed that of the Cardinal of *Arragon*, under pretence that ſhe was troubled with a megrim; telling her in plain down-right terms, *that a man of his rank and quality was not able to bear ſuch a contempt.* The world may learn from this remarkable paſſage on what grounds the natural ſons of the Kings of *Spain* pretend to ſtand.

All the Courts of Judicature as well the chief as the ſubaltern, the body of the City and the people made ſeveral Remonſtrances to the Queen, to hinder the ſetting up this Regiment in *Madrid*, but to no purpoſe. In fine they importuned her ſo often upon this ſcore, that ſhe ſigned an Order, by which ſhe prohibited them to ſpeak to her any more about it, and ſo without any more delay ſhe compleated the Regiment.

She afterwards commanded *Don Juan*, under very rigorous penalties, to remove from *Guadalajara*: He obeyed her Orders with a great deal of reſpect, altho he was in a condition, by the the help of his friends, that were come to him from *Arragon* and other places, to do what he pleaſed; the report ran, that he was coming within a little diſtance of *Madrid*, and this gave ſeveral perſons abundance of uneaſie thoughts.

To pacifie their ſpirits, the Queen wrote to him and deſired him to repair to *Arragon*, in the quality of Viceroy and Vicar-General of the Kingdoms dependant upon it.

This Order affected him with a very ſenſible joy, and he took care to teſtifie it by the thanks he returned the Queen, to whom he writ a very large Letter, deſiring her Majeſty to conſider ſeriouſly of the education of the young King. In it he repreſented to her the great conſequences of it, as being a man, that was maſter of a great deal of wit and honour. He wrote likewiſe to the Pope on the 7th of *June*, to conjure him to oblige Father *Nitard* to quit his Offices.

In the mean time ſome of the Queens enemies ſet about a ſham decree, wherein ſhe gave orders to the Council to diſarm the people immediately, and return their Arms into the Common Hall. It was an eaſie matter to perſwade the world that this was her real intention, and indeed this pretended innovation ſo far eſtranged the peoples hearts from her Majeſty, that they were juſt upon the point of making an inſurrection.

This reaſon joined with the horrible diſorders that were committed by the Regiment of the *Scambergues* (for ſo the people nick-named them becauſe they were clad *a la Francoiſe*, and the *Spaniards* copied this mode from M. *de Schomberg*) this reaſon, I ſay, obliged the Council Royal to preſent another Remonſtance to the Queen, wherein they deſired her to ſend theſe new Soldiers to the Frontiers; but ſhe did not think fit

to

to comply with their requeſts, becauſe ſhe imagined this body of military men would keep the City in awe and ſubjection.

Don *Juan* was now at *Saragoſſa*, beloved by the Nobility, and adored by the people: the Queen could never forgive him the irreparable injury he did her, in forcing her to part with her Confeſſor, who made but a ſorry figure at *Rome*, ſo that by way of raillery it was frequently ſaid: *That the Queen of* Spain *had ſo invincible an averſion to the* Spaniards, *that ſhe would never conſent to the ruine of Father* Nitard, *till he was naturalized a* Spaniard.

But however ſhe ſtill preſerved ſo great an eſteem and affection for him, that ſhe employed her utmoſt endeavours to procure him a Cardinals Cap. For this reaſon ſhe gave ſecret orders to the Marquiſs *de S. Romain*, her Ambaſſador ordinary at *Rome*. This ſoon came to be known at *Madrid*, and the news alarm'd the people exceedingly, every one apprehending that if ever the Father Confeſſor was made Cardinal, he would certainly by thoſe ſteps come back to *Spain*, and they were all perſwaded that the Queen maintained the Regiment of the *Schombergs* for no other end, but only to favour this deſign.

The Council being really afraid leſt the intrigue ſhould ſucceed, bethought themſelves of ſome means to defeat Father *Nitard* in his pretenſions, and for that purpoſe they diſpatched a Courier to the Marqueſs *de S. Romain* to propoſe to the Pope ſome other Subjects of *Spain*, who better

better deſerved the purple. The Queen made as if ſhe conſented to the buſineſs, but under hand renewed her orders: but the Ambaſſador, who was no friend at all to the Jeſuits, managed his affairs ſo prudently, that his Holineſs rejected Father *Nitard*, and beſides obliged him to reſign his other Places.

The General of his Order, whom he had formerly neglected, and who for that reaſon owed him a great deal of ill will, thought he had now an opportunity in the reverſe of the Father's fortune to pay the debt, ſo he ſent him immediately to one of their Houſes near *Rome*.

He retired thither with a ſpirit of moderation that was very exemplary, and of all his Train he kept no one with him but Friar *Buſtos* his Companion: Behold here a continued ſeries of Thunder claps one upon the neck of another. This harſh uſage appeared ſo terrible to the poor Queen, who did not in the leaſt queſtion the ſucceſs of her negotiation, that ſhe fell ſick of a Tertian Ague, which continued a long time upon her.

'Tis eaſy to believe, by what I have already related, that her reſentments became more violent than ever againſt Don *Juan*: from her natural diſpoſition ſhe was inclined to make him him reſponſible for every thing that gave her any diſquiet, and when ſhe ſaw at the ſame time the Bulls for the Charge of Inquiſitor General arrive at *Madrid*, ſhe did not doubt but it was all of the Prince's doing. In fine that place which ſhe had ſeen ſo deſervedly filled by Father

Ni-

Nitard, was poſſeſt by Don *Antonio Balladores*, Preſident of *Caſtile*; and Father *Nitard* for his part continued ſtill near *Rome*, but ſubject to all the ill treatment, with which the General of his Order thought fit to mortify him.

The Queen was not able to endure, that a man who had formerly enjoyed ſo great a ſhare in her friendſhip and confidence, and who had governed the whole Monarchy of *Spain* ſo abſolutely ſhould continue expoſed to all the reſentments and caprices of his General, Therefore ſhe employed all the credit ſhe had at *Rome* to place Father *Nitard* in another condition.

Clement IX dying in the Month of *December* 1669. Cardinal *Altieri* was choſen Pope, and took upon him the name of *Clement* X. The Queen, who did not doubt but that this Pope would beſtow a Cap upon her Confeſſor, named the Father to be Ambaſſador extraordinary of *Spain* at his Holineſs's Court, an employment which ſhe had formerly offer'd him, when he departed from *Madrid*, and which he was not then willing to accept of; ſhe procured leave for him to return to *Rome*, and in fine, managed this affair with his Holineſs ſo ſucceſsfully, that Father *Nitard* was created Archbiſhop of *Edeſſa*. She continued to ſollicit his promotion with a great deal of vigour and application. The Pope being thus importuned, made him Cardinal *Prieſt* in the month of *April* 1672, and gave him in the Month of *Auguſt* following, the title of St. *Bartholomew a' Iſola*, and gave him a place in the 4 Congregations.

This

This news filled the Queen with a very ſenſible joy, and all thoſe perſons who were of her party did not fail to compliment her upon this occaſion. The new Cardinal writ a very obliging Letter to Don *Juan* in hopes that this civility would draw another from the Prince, and that finding by this correſpondence a means to reconcile himſelf to him, he would at laſt conſent to his return into *Spain*. But he was mightily miſtaken in his project, for Don *Juan* ſent him no anſwer back again. Cardinal *Nitard* ſeeing that the Prince ſtill continued his averſion to him, laid aſide all hopes of going to *Madrid*, till the time of the King's Coronation.

But ſince what I have written concerning Cardinal *Nitard*, has inſenſibly led me to the time of Don *Fernand de Valenzuela*, I think my ſelf obliged to ſpeak of him.

He was originally of the City *de Ronda* in the Kingdom of *Granada*, and was ſuppoſed to be an *Hidalgo*, that is to ſay a Gentleman, and not a *Cavallero*. For they make this difference in *Spain* between a Cavalier and a Gentleman, that the former is deſcended of an ancient family, or at leaſt allied to ſome illuſtrious houſe, and pays neither taxes nor tribute, whereas the latter is exempt from nothing, tho he perhaps has acquired the quality of a Gentleman.

Valenzuela came very young to *Madrid*, where the Duke *de l' Infantado* took him for his Page, when he went Ambaſſador to *Rome*. He was handſom and well-ſhaped, of an agreeable meen, had a great deal of wit, loved his ſtudies, and was naturally a Poet. The character of his verſe

verſe was tender and paſſionate, there are ſeveral pieces of his to be ſeen that are compoſed after this faſhion, and among the reſt ſome Comedies which he cauſed to be repreſented for the diverſion of the Queen Mother, at the time when he firſt began to have the honour of being in her good graces.

The Duke *de l' Infantado* being returned out of *Italy*, made Don *Fernand* Knight of St. *Jago*. 'Tis by this means ordinarily that great Perſons begin to recompence thoſe of their Domeſtics, for whom they have the greateſt conſideration. But he received nothing elſe but this bare title for the many years ſervice he had waited upon his Maſter, becauſe it ſo happened that the Duke died, before he did any farther kindneſs for him.

He found himſelf therefore all at a blow deſtitute of a Protector, and ſo miſerably poor, that he was obliged to become *Paſſeante en Corte*, which is as much as to ſay, a man that lives by his wits. To ſay the truth, he was Maſter of very happy Talents, which put him in a condition to accompliſh every thing he undertook, ſo that after he had ſeriouſly examined with himſelf the meanneſs of his fortune, he imagined the beſt conduct he could uſe to advance it, was to make himſelf acquainted and known to ſome perſons, that were particularly devoted to the intereſts of the Queen. He ſearcht out means to effect this deſign with ſo continued an application, that at laſt he found acceſs to Father *Nitard*; he choſe him immediately for his Patron, and indeed could not have pitch'd upon a better; and ſoon

inſi-

inſinuated himſelf into his favour by his exemplary ſubmiſſion and diligence. The Father taking notice that he wanted neither addreſs nor wit, and beſides that he was capable of keeping a ſecret, communicated to him ſome of his own, and afterwards entruſted him with thoſe of the Queen, acquainting him with the reſentments ſhe had entertained againſt Don *Juan* of *Auſtria*. He knew very well what advantages to make, both of the diſcovery that was made him, and of the favourable diſpoſition of the Father Confeſſor, and rendred himſelf ſo neceſſary to him that he could not almoſt be a moment without him. This obliged him to give him admiſſion into the Palace, whether he often came to give him on account of the ſeveral things he had intruſted him with.

As ſoon as ever *Valenzuela* was introduced into the Palace, he loſt no time there, but improved all his favourable moments to the beſt advantages; he plaid very well at Cards, and being informed that amongſt the other women that waited upon the Queen, there was a *German* Lady, whoſe name was Donna *Eugenia*, in whom her Miſtreſs intirely confided, he preſently reſolved to uſe all means to ſee her: He walked often under her Chamber window, and being an handſome agreeable young fellow, ſhe for her part failed not to take due notice of him.

In ſhort they ſpoke to one another, he pleaſed her at leaſt as well as ſhe pleaſed him, ſhe gave him leave to *Galantear* her, for that is the faſhionable word with them there, when any perſon

ſon devotes himſelf to the ſervice of any of the Court-Ladies: And 'tis a thing ſo common among them, that altho a man is married, yet he does not forbear to treat his Miſtreſs in publick with all thoſe Ceremonies, that are uſually paid to the Lady, whom they deſign to marry.

Donna *Eugenia* did not receive the Teſtimonies, that young *Valenzuela* gave her of his paſſion with the leaſt coldneſs or indifference, and he purſued the point ſo vigorouſly, and preſt her ſo earneſtly to conſent to marry him, that ſhe diſcourſed the Queen about it.

Her Majeſty had already taken notice of him, and he had the good fortune not to diſpleaſe her, ſo that to tye him the faſter to her intereſts ſhe conſented to let him marry her Favourite, and afterwards beſtowed a Gentleman Querry's place upon the new Bridegroom. About this time the differences between the Queen and Don *Juan* daily increaſed, and as Don *Fernand* was a man of addreſs enough to ſound the bottom of any intrigue, ſo he did not omit to do the Queen all the uſeful ſervices that lay in his power. She beheld his zeal with a great deal of pleaſure, and took him ſo far into her conſideration, that ſhe daily gave him ſome freſh aſſurances of her confidence.

Father *Nitard* placed all this to his own account, and voluntarily contributed to *Valenzuela's* advancement, becauſe he looked upon him as his own creature: But tho Fortune now began to deſert and leave him, yet ſhe abſolutely declared her ſelf in favour of *Valenzuela*, about the time when Don *Juan* returned from *Arragon* to *Caſtile*,

Caſtile, and cauſed the Father Confeſſor to be turned out of *Spain*.

Valenzuela continued the Queen's ſole Favourite without any ſpy upon him, for the Prince returned back to *Saragoſſa* in quality of Vicar General of the Kingdoms of *Arragon*. The Queen was ſo extremely perplexed and mortified by the removal of Father *Nitard*, and her enemies knew ſo well to make their advantages of it, that it was ſome time before ſhe could tolerably recover herſelf from the impreſſion that ſo rude a Shock had made upon her: but having conſidered the neceſſity ſhe lay under to have a faithful perſon near her, whom ſhe might entruſt with her moſt ſecret affairs, ſhe caſt her eyes upon *Valenzuela*, who for his part ſtill continued very much amaz'd at the misfortunes of Father *Nitard*.

One day the Queen ſpoke to Donna *Eugenia* to bring her Husband with her privately towards the Evening, becauſe ſhe had a mind to diſcourſe with him alone: Donna *Eugenia* who wanted neither wit nor ambition, was tranſported with joy to think that *Valenzuela* was going to have ſuch particular converſations with the Queen, and exactly obeyed the Orders ſhe had received.

The firſt time he entred into the Queen's Chamber, he was very cautious and fearful, for he came armed with a *Broquel*, which is a ſort of a Buckler, that they generally carry with them in *Spain*, when they go to a place where they apprehend any danger: His hair, that was very fine and delicate, he had tyed up in a Ribbon knot, he had not his *Golilla* on, for 'tis the fa-

faſhion there to leave them off at night, in ſhort he forgot nothing that might render himſelf charming and agreeable to the Queen. She appeared in a *deſhabille* that ſate much better upon her, than the Widdows habit ſhe wore in the day time, which very much reſembles that of a Religious woman.

Velanzuela threw himſelf immediately at her feet, and after he had returned her his moſt humble thanks for the great honour ſhe was now pleaſed to do him, he aſſured her, that his blood, his life, in a word every thing that lay in his power was ſo intirely reſigned to her ſervice, that he had the preſumption to believe none of all her Subjects was devoted to her Majeſty, after ſo particular a manner as himſelf. The Queen gave credit to his words, and after this meeting ſcarce a night paſt over his head, but ſhe cauſed him to come privately to her Apartment.

His Wife always conducted him thither, and the Queen ordered her to be preſent all the while to take away all Suſpition and umbrage. Here it was that he gave her a particular account of every thing he knew, and informed her of all the moſt ſecret intrigues that were carried on in Court or City, of the deſigns of Don *Juan*, of thoſe Lords that were of the Prince's Faction, of the meaſures that were taken againſt her, ſo that ſhe knew all the moſt private affairs, altho to appearance ſhe ſpoke with no body. It was commonly ſaid at Court that there was a *Duende* in the Palace, that is to ſay a familiar Spirit, that acquainted the Queen with all the

news, and ſecret deſigns: But ſome time after when it came to be publickly known, that *Valenzuela* was this *Eſprit folet*, this Familiar Spirit, he was uſually called *el Duende de la Reina.*

The affection ſhe had for him encreaſed to ſuch a degree, that all the world knew it, and the Courtiers all endeavoured to pleaſe the new Favourite: No favours were to be obtained but through his Interceſſion, and the Credit of the other Miniſters ſunk ſo low that they ſtood only for Ciphers, So they began to murmur amongſt themſelves. *To what purpoſe was it,* ſaid they, *to remove Father* Nitard *and ſend him away, ſince a new Favourite is ſtarted up, that ſucceeds him in his place, and acts with more Authority than the other ever did.*

This good fortune of *Valenzuela* occaſioned him a thouſand enemies, they ſpoke of the Q. with all the freedom and liberty imaginable; both Grandees and people made no ſcruple of ſaying in publick that a young ignorant Favourite without fortune or merit governed all *Spain*, and that it was a ſhame to endure it. The Q. being informed of what was ſaid, reſolved to advance *Valenzuela*'s fortune without delay, to the end that he might feel the good effects of her protection, before they were able to hurt him. Upon this conſideration ſhe gave him the charge of Maſter of the Horſe, without having any regard to the cuſtom, by which ſhe was obliged to concert it with her Miniſters, as is the way in *Spain*, when they are going to diſpoſe of any conſiderable poſt, becauſe ſhe apprehended they would have oppoſed her deſigns; ſo that without

out entring into any manner of conſultation (that is the uſual term in *Spain*) ſhe ordered his Commiſſion to be diſpatched.

The Marqueſs *de Caſtel-Rodrigo* who was at that time Maſter of the Horſe, oppoſed it with all his power, and peremptorily refuſed to give him admiſſion into that place, alledging abundance of very diſobligiug reaſons againſt the pretenſions of Don *Fernand*, and particularly that he had no Title to make him hope ſo great an honour. The Queen removed that difficulty very eaſily, for ſhe created him Marqueſs *de Sanbortolome de los Pinares.*

When the World obſerved ſo advantageous an alteration in the fortune of *Valenzuela*, no body queſtioned but that he was a *Valido*, that is to ſay a Favourite. The report immediately ſpread it ſelf through all *Spain*, attended with ſome circumſtances that deeply concerned her Majeſty's reputation, but ſhe made no account of them; whether it were, becauſe ſhe thought thoſe perſons not worth her conſideration that had the boldneſs to talk ſo freely of her, or becauſe ſhe had ſome particular reaſons to herſelf not to alter this conduct.

Some time after, the Marquis *de Caſtel Rodrigo*, Maſter of the Horſe, happened to die, and the Queen beſtow'd his Charge upon *Valenzuela*: if the Grandees formerly murmured when he was advanced to a leſs conſiderable poſt, 'tis an eaſie matter to imagine the exceſs of their diſſatisfaction and jealouſy, when they beheld him ſettled in a place, which all of them could have wiſhed to have enjoyed, and of

which they believed themſelves to be infinitely more deſerving: But they ceaſed to make any farther clamours about this buſineſs, when they found they had a Subject to talk of that was a great deal more ſurprizing. Her Majeſty made *Valenzuela* a Grandee of *Spain* of the firſt Claſs, with a double gold Key. At this piece of news all people looked upon one another, and continued mute for ſome time, not being able to expreſs the aſtoniſhment they were in. The Lords as they met one another ſaid nothing elſe but *Valenzuela made a Grandee, O tempora, O mores*: In fine the Queen declared him her ſole Favourite, ſo that he iſſued out all Orders for her as Chief Miniſter, or to ſpeak more properly, as an abſolute Maſter. No body was ſurprized at this new honour that arrived to him, for they made no queſtion, but that after ſuch ſtrange unaccountable beginnings, he was marked out and deſigned for the Miniſtry.

Being elevated to ſo eminent a poſt, he wanted nothing but ſome friends to help and ſupport him, if it ever ſhould be his ill fortune to make a wrong ſtep. And it was no difficult matter for him to effect it in ſo advantageous a ſcituation, where all favours, all the mony, all the the offices and benefices were at his intire diſpoſal. But as ſoon as ever he procured a favour for any ſingle Grandee, he at the ſame moment diſobliged above twenty more, who from that time dated themſelves his mortal enemies, and heartily wiſhed his ruine, becauſe he did not prefer them: So that he was often heard to complain and regret his fate, for that

he could not ſatisfy all the world; And as the number of his friends was infinitely inferiour to that of his enemies, ſo the latter began to cabal againſt him, and think of ſome way or other to oblige Don *Juan* of *Auſtria* to return, out of an expectation that he was the fitteſt perſon to remove this univerſal grievance, this new Creature *Valenzuela*.

This Cabal of Malecontents increaſed ſo mightily, that there was almoſt nothing to be ſeen but Paſquils, Lampoons, and Satyrs both in proſe and verſe againſt the Queen and againſt him. Nay they had the boldneſs to give out, that he hindered her Majeſty from recompencing the ſervices of ſeveral perſons, who otherwiſe might have expected conſiderable employments. In ſhort, their inſolence proceeded ſo far, that one night very near the Palace, they hung up the portraiture of the Queen with *Valenzuela*. He had at his feet all the marks that repreſented his ſeveral places, a Sword for Conſtable, an Anchor for Admiral, a Golden Key for Gentleman of the Bed Chamber, a Collar of the Fleece for Knight of that Order, and ſo of the reſt. He pointed at all theſe things with his hand, and below was written *Eſte ſe Vende*, that is to ſay, all this is ſold. And the Queen leaning her hand upon his heart with this inſcription *Yeſte ſe da*, that is to ſay, and this is given. The report ran very ſtrong, that he ſold all Offices and Dignities at high rates, at which ſome perſons of the higheſt quality were extremely offended, and his avarice drew upon him abundance of Enemies.

But what is ſtill the moſt remarkable is this, that all theſe various reports made not the leaſt impreſſion on the Queen. She ſaid 'That her 'rank placed her above theſe little contumelies, 'and that ſhe ſhould be angry with her ſelf if 'ſhe were capable of being diſquieted at ſuch 'miſerable reproaches, that were ſo infinitely 'below her indignation; that the moſt effectual 'way to puniſh and extinguiſh theſe licentious 'abuſes was to take no notice of them, that the 'reaſon why they were ſo inveterate againſt the 'Marqueſs *de Valenzuela* proceeded only from 'their envy, that ſhe was reſolved not to aban-'don and ſacrifice one of the beſt Subjects that 'the King her Son had, to gratifie the inſatiable 'humour of ſome Malecontents that were never 'to be ſatisfied. So that now it was apparent, that all the methods they took to deſtroy this Favourite, ſerved only to confirm him ſo much the deeper in the affections, and good graces of the Queen.

Nevertheleſs he uſed all poſſible means to procure the good will of the people, he took care that *Madrid* ſhould be always plentifully ſupplied with proviſions, neceſſary for life; and that all ſorts of commodities ſhould be ſold at cheap eaſy rates. He often entertained the City with Bull Feaſts, where he generally made his appearance in a black habit, embroidered over with ſilver, and wore black and white Plumes, as being in ſecond mourning, becauſe the Queen was a Widdow: But as ſoon as ever he entred the Liſts, and according to the cuſtom of thoſe that deſign to combat the Bulls, came under

the

the Queen's Balcony making her a profound reverence and demanding permiſſion *de Taurear*, (as they call it there) ſhe ſent a Meſſenger to forbid him to expoſe himſelf. 'Twas obſervable in one of theſe courſes, that he wore a Scarf of black Taffata embroidered o're with Gold, with the device of an Eagle gazing ſtedfaſtly upon the Sun, and for the Motto theſe words, *Tengo ſolo Licentia*, that is to ſay, *it is only permitted to me.* Some days after he appeared at the running at the ring, having an Eagle painted upon his Buckler, (for they always wear them at this ſort of Courſe, which is an ancient diverſion of the *Moors*) armed with *Jupiter*'s thunder, bearing the ſame Motto, *It is only permitted to me.* There being no hazard to run in this ſport, the Queen was willing that *Valenzuela* ſhould ſhow his dexterity, which he did, and carried away the prize from a great number of young Lords, that diſputed it with him, and received from the Queen's hand a Sword beſet with Diamonds. They talked hotly at Court of the two devices of the Favourite, and every one was ready to explain them according to his own fancy and inclination. He cauſed ſome Comedies of his compoſing to be publickly repreſented on the Theatre, and all the Town had the liberty of ſeeing them for nothing. This was the moſt taking way in the world to gain the hearts of the *Spaniards*, for they are ſuch paſſionate admirers of all publick ſhows, that they will lay up the mony, which ought to be ſpent in maintaining their poor Families, to purchaſe a dear ſeat at a Bull-feaſt. *Valenzuela* was not ſatisfied to

cultivate the affections of the people by these magnificences, but sought other ways to win their hearts. He set several noble buildings on foot, rebuilt the great Square, the better part of which had been consumed by fire, and particularly the House where their Majesties went to behold the Courses at the Bull-feasts, and running at the ring. He caused a bridge to be built at the gate near *Toledo* over the *Mancanares*, that cost a million of Ducats, and another bridge over the same river at *Pardo*, which is a house of pleasure belonging to the King. The Frontispiece and place before the Palace was finished by his order, as also the Tower of the Queen's Apartment was raised much higher.

He employed all his thoughts in contributing to the diversion of the Queen, and the King her Son; this young Prince now began to go to all the meetings of Sport and Pleasure that were kept at *Aranjues*, the *Escurial* and the other Royal Houses. One day when the Marquess *de Valenzuela* had received Orders of the King to prepare a Chase for him, and the Court was then at the *Escurial*, the King designing to shoot a Stag, shot his Favourite and wounded him on the Thigh; the Queen being terribly affrighted broke out into great Lamentations, and fainted away between the arms of her Ladies. This accident occasioned some people to predict the approaching ruine of *Valenzuela*, whereof this odd adventure seemed to be a presage.

The time being now come to order the King's Houshold, the Marquess made choice of all the Officers. He made the Duke *d' Albuquerque* Mayor-

Mayor-Dome Mayor, the Admiral of *Caſtile* Cavallerizo Mayor, and the Duke *de Medinaceli Sumiller de Corps*, this Officer is the ſame in effect with High Chamberlain, and puts on the Kings ſhirt: The name is originally French, and comes from the Dukes of *Burgundy*, from whom the Houſe of *Auſtria* is deſcended. After the ſame manner he diſpoſed of the other places.

Now as there were abundantly more pretenders than places to fill, he drew upon him by this means a conſiderable number of Enemies, who could not digeſt the affront of having nothing given them, and were leſs inclined to pardon him for that which directly concerned themſelves, than for what related to the Intereſt of State. At this time they thought more earneſtly than ever of Don *Juan*, hoping that he would come to revenge their quarrel upon *Valenzuela*, and beſides they laboured underhand to convince the King, how neceſſary it was for the better management of affairs to have the Prince about him.

The Queen being informed of what was deſigned againſt her, paſſed many ſorrowful days, and more melancholy nights, altho ſhe had almoſt continual conferences with the Marqueſs; but ſhe could never repreſent to her mind the killing thought, that they would treat the Marqueſs after the ſame cruel manner as they had uſed Father *Nitard*, but ſhe fell a weeping, and diſcovered all the ſigns of a real concern. She knew very well, that the Grandees frequently aſſembled together, and that they ſpoke of the Government with all the freedom imaginable;

that

that the Libels and Paſquils, that were inſolently ſcattered abroad, all tended to defame her adminiſtration, were publickly owned and acknowledged by the Authors themſelves, and that ſhe was obliged to ſeem, as if ſhe knew nothing of thoſe matters, becauſe ſhe was not in a capacity to puniſh them.

Valenzuela for his part was not without his uneaſy moments, the elevation of his fortune only ſerved to make him ſenſible of the terrible precipice he was falling down, from which he did not perceive any viſible means to ſecure himſelf.

In the mean time Don *Juan*, who continued ſtill at *Saragoſſa*, was diſcontented at his baniſhment, how honourable ſoever it appeared, it is ſufficient that it was not voluntary, and that was enough to make him diſreliſh it: The Queen and he had ſtill the ſame mutual averſion to one another as formerly, and notwithſtanding the fair appearances of his outward behaviour, he laboured under hand with his friends to get himſelf declared, Infant *de Caſtile*. At leaſt people report it of him; 'tis indeed very true, that he was never able to accompliſh that deſign, but they pretend that he was not abſolutely without hopes to effect it.

However it was, he made ſo great a Faction, by the means of ſome conſiderable perſons about the King, who were for promoting his return, that his friends ſent him word, that the King deſired it, that every thing was diſpoſed, and ready to receive him, and that the credit of the Queen would never be able to ſtand in competition againſt his.

This

This good news obliged him to quit *Arragon*, and make all the haſte he could to arrive at *Buenretiro* 1677.

To bring about this affair with more facility, they gave the King to underſtand, 'That he was 'not only under the Tutorage of the Queen his 'Mother, but under that of *Valenzuela*. They 'afterwards repreſented to him the conſtraint 'he lived under in ſuch lively colours, that he 'proteſted he would free himſelf immediately 'from this ſervitude. And altho the Queen had always her eye upon him, for fear he ſhould be ſeduced by any ill Counſels, and take contrary meaſures to what ſhe preſcribed him, yet he found the opportunity one night to ſteal out of the Palace with only one Gentleman of his Bedchamber, who lay in his room, and ſo muffled up in his Cloak he walk'd on foot to *Retiro*, which was far enough off: From thence he diſpatched an Order immediately to the Queen not to ſtir out of the Palace.

It is eaſy to imagine what entertainment ſuch mortifying news found with her, and what effects this ſudden reverſe of fortune cauſed in a Princeſs, who had been accuſtomed to govern.

She employed the remainder of the night in writing to the King, conjuring him in the moſt tender terms to give her leave to viſit him, but he ſtill refuſed it.

While the King tarried at *Retiro*, the people being informed of his intentions, flockt in multitudes to ſalute and acknowledge him. All the Lords of the Court made him very conſiderable preſents, ſo that ſome perſons valued them at a hundred

hundred thouſand Crowns, either in Mony, Plate, Tapiſtry or Diamonds. There was an univerſal joy at *Madrid* upon this occaſion, and that for theſe two reaſons, which equally cauſed it. The firſt is, the exceeding affection the *Spaniards* have for their Prince, the ſecond, becauſe the Queen was ſo ill beloved, and beſides the people could never forget ſome words that dropt from her once, viz. *That ſhe ſhould never be at reſt, till ſhe had brought them all to be cloathed with Eſterac.* This is a ſort of a courſe Matt made of Ruſhes, that ſerves them for Mattreſſes and their bedding.

The next night after the King's retreat, they made Illuminations in all the ſtreets.

As ſoon as Don *Juan* arrived, he obliged the King to remove the Queen from thence, ſo ſhe was ſent to *Toledo*, with poſitive orders not to ſtir out of that City. The unfortunate *Valenzuela* took his leave of her with all the Teſtimonies of grief and duty, that ſo ſhort a time would allow him, and retired to the *Eſcurial* according to order.

Thus there being a new face of affairs, every body made his Court and Application to Don *Juan*, and the King by his extraordinary careſſes, ſufficiently teſtifyed how joyful he was to ſee him again. He commanded him to take care of all his affairs, and indeed Don *Juan* rendred himſelf ſo abſolute a Maſter, that his authority became much greater than that of the Queen, and her two chief Miniſters.

Don *Juan* earneſtly deſired to have *Valenzuela*'s perſon in his power, but could not tell whither he was gone. At laſt being informed that he

was

was to be found at the *Eſcurial* he ſhowed a great deal of joy at the news. This is one of the King's Houſes, and is of ſo prodigious an extent, that if we take in the Buildings, the Park, and a Convent of Religious *Feronomites*, which is contained within the Precincts of it, 'tis thought it is ſeveral Leagues in compaſs, and is all incloſed with Walls.

The King commanded Don *Antonio de Toledo*, Son to the Duke of *Alva*, to go thither in perſon and arreſt *Valenzuela*; he departed immediately with the Duke *De Medina Sidonia*, and the Marqueſs *de Valparayſo*, Don *Fernand de Toledo*, ſeveral perſons of great quality, and two hundred Horſe. The Marqueſs was then walking in an adjoyning Forreſt full of heavineſs and melancholy, but hearing on a ſudden a great noiſe about him, and being informed at the ſame time, of what had happened, by a certain Meſſenger, whom ſome of his Friends had ſent in all ſpeed to acquaint him with the news; he returned haſtily to the *Eſcurial*; and finding out the Prior of the Convent of the *Feronomites*, who was a very honeſt man, and particularly concerned at the misfortunes of this Favourite, he told him in a few words what danger he was in, and what reaſons he had to apprehend the loſs of his life, in caſe he was taken; praying and conjuring him with all imaginable earneſtneſs to conceal him in ſome place of ſafety.

The Prior immediately ordered a hole to be contrived in a Cell, belonging to one of the Religious, of whoſe Confidence he was well aſſured: This Cell it ſeems was all over wainſcoted,

ſo

ſo that taking down one of the Pannels of the Wainſcot, and making a cavity in the wall which was of a conſiderable thickneſs, in manner of a nitch, they threw in a few Mats, and there the poor Marqueſs was ſhut up.

It being very well known, that the Marqueſs was retired into the Convent, there was no place or corner left unſearcht by Don *Antonio de Toledo*, and thoſe that accompanied him. They had ſo ſmall a reſpect to the moſt holy places, that they almoſt turned every thing in the Church upſide down.

But their ſearch was to no purpoſe; and Don *Antonio* could not tell what to reſolve upon. He had been upon the hunt there ſeveral days to find out *Valenzuela*, who, as he now began to imagine, had certainly found the means to ſave himſelf: When the unhappy Marqueſs being almoſt ſtifled in the Hole for want of air, and beſides diſordered with his late afflictions, fell ſo dangerouſly ill, that there were little hopes of his life. Finding himſelf therefore in this deſperate condition, he cared not what became of him: But the Father Prior having firſt taken the Chirurgion of the Convent's word to keep the ſecret inviolably, ſent him to the Marqueſs to let him blood: This treacherous Villain within a quarter of an hour after diſcovered the whole myſtery to Don *Antonio*, who had been it ſeems in the Cell, where poor *Valenzuela* lay immured, almoſt every day ſince he began to make the ſearch after him. He then immediately entred the Convent, and all on the ſudden commanded the Pannel, which covered the Marqueſs, to be taken

taken down. He found him fast asleep, but very much altered by his indisposition and misfortunes; his arms lay ready by him, and if he had been awake, there is no question to be made but that he had resolutely defended himself, being a person of great courage and bravery: And besides what would not a man attempt in so deplorable a condition?

He was conducted to the Castle *de Consuegra*, which belongs to the Grand Priory of *Castile*, of the order of *Malta*. Don *Juan* chose to make this the scene of his confinement, because the Castle depended upon him. *Valenzuela* lay there dangerously sick, and often said in the hearing of his Guards, *Oh heavens! and there is no hope then that I shall dye immediately, must I still live after I have endured so many afflictions?*

When he was somewhat better, he was removed to the Castle *de los Puntales* at *Cadiz*, where he suffered a very close imprisonment; nevertheless he showed a great deal of constancy and resolution, in the midst of all his ill usage and disgraces.

At last he was imbarked in a Vessel to be sent to *Chile* in the *Philipines*. These are certain Islands in the extreamest part of the *East-Indies*, almost adjoyning to *China*. 'Tis a long and tedious Voyage thither, and they generally transport their most notorious Criminals in *Spain* to those places, where they are forced to work in the Quicksilver mines. They seldom tarry above two years in that slavish employment but they die, or at least are troubled with a general trembling in their limbs, which makes them suffer infinitely more than death it self.

Va-

Valenzuela was informed before his departure, that he was degraded from all his honours, and that the King had taken away all his Offices, leaving only his bare name to him. *I perceive then,* says he very pensively, *that I am under more unfortunate circumstances by far, than when I first came to Court, and the Duke* de l' Infantado *took me for his Page.*

But tho they took care to acquaint him with what related particularly to himself, yet he could learn nothing of the Queen's destiny, or what became of his Wife, and Children. They had shut up her Majesty together with them in a Convent at *Talavera de la Reine,* and strictly commanded the Abbess, not to let them stir abroad, or speak to any body.

'Tis commonly reported, that at the time, when he was at the Port of *Cales* ready to embarque, a woman of an extraordinary size, handsomly dress't, and covered with her veil, as it is the Spanish Fashion, bustled through the Guards close up to him. *Take courage* Valenzuela, says she to him, *thy Enemy will die, and thou shalt once more see* Spain.

Those that heard her say so, would have stopt her, but she found out means to make her escape. What she told him afterwards proved in effect to be true, for Don *Juan* died, and one of the first graces that the Queen Mother begged of the King at her return to *Madrid,* was to have *Valenzuela* recalled home. So a Vessel was sent to the *Philippines* to bring him back, but he found to his sorrow, that *d' Egnya* hindered his return, altho the Queen so earnestly desired it.

The

The Pope having received information of what had paſſed, as well in the Church as in the Convent, when they dragged *Valenzuela* by force out of the Eſcurial, excommunicated all thoſe that were concerned in the fact; ſo that before the Lords could prevail to have the Eccleſiaſtical Cenſure taken off, which by this violation of the Churches Liberty they had incurred, they were obliged in white Sheets and Halters about their Necks to walk to the Imperial Colledge, where Cardinal *Mellini*, who was then Nuncio at *Madrid*, made each of them undergo ſome blows of Diſcipline.

All the Kingdom teſtified an extraordinary ſatisfaction to to ſee Don *Juan* enter upon the Government, and we may ſafely ſay, that all the hopes and expectations of *Spain* were lodged in him.

As he was maſter of a great deal of wit and vivacity, ſo that it was natural to believe that the different employments of his life, whether in peace or war, rendered him extreamly capable of repairing the breaches and reforming all the irregularities of the State. Several of the Grandees had entred into a ſort of an Aſſociation for his return; and now they had leiſure to make ſevere reflections upon the weakneſs of the late Government, where they found nothing but private intreagues and little factions, that were extreamly diſadvantagious to the Publick Intereſt.

A German Queen, an Infant King, a Foreigner Chief Miniſter of State and Confeſſor, *Valenzuela* made a Favourite and Miniſter; without

birth and without capacity, raiſed upon the ſudden by a ſtrange caprice of Fortune, and thrown down again into his primitive nothing: In fine, all their hopes centred in Don *Juan*, and they had long expected him almoſt to a degree of impatience: but when he was once arrived, and they beheld him at a nearer view, preſently all thoſe great and glorious Ideas, which they had conceived of him, vaniſhed away like a dream.

This is commonly the fate and deſtiny of all great Miniſters; the high place they poſſeſs only ſerves to expoſe them the more to the envy of their inferiours. Even thoſe perſons that took the greateſt pains to place them in that condition, think they have laboured all the while for an ungrateful wretch, and if he fails to ſhowr down all his favours upon them, will be ſure to give him leſs quarter than any men elſe. So ſmall a diſtance there is from publick favour and admiration to publick hatred. This rule which generally holds at all times and in all places, did not fail to be accompliſhed in the perſon of Don *Juan*.

Moſt people were concerned to ſee what harſh uſage he gave the Queen, and could not forbear to accuſe his obſtinacy, for refuſing to enter *Madrid*, till the Queen was gone out, and on her way to *Toledo*.

He was not content with this affront that he put upon her at his firſt appearance, but to humble her ſtill the more, he added another that was full as mortifying, he deſcended into a ſevere examination of her paſt conduct, the particulars of which had not the leaſt relation to

the

the preſent ſtate of affairs, and only tended to defame her.

This Princeſs ſuffered with an incredible grief a treatment ſo unbefitting her high Quality, and ſo injurious to her reputation, but all other ways of ſhewing her reſentments were denied her, and ſhe had nothing left to exerciſe, ſave only her patience and virtue.

But ſeveral perſons of Quality that were ſtill linked to her whether out of affection or duty, could not without a ſenſible affliction, behold the oppreſſion ſhe lay under. They generally ſpoke of it with heat and indignation, and ſpread abroad a report, that altho Don *Juan* was no legitimate Prince, yet he flattered himſelf that he ſhould one day become abſolute Maſter of the Monarchy.

Abundance of people maintained the contrary, alledging that he was never guilty of ſuch a deſign, and that if he had been capable of harbouring any ſuch thoughts, he might eaſily have ſucceeded in them, by the aſſiſtance of his own party which was very numerous, and by his own power; that the King was but fifteen years old, and beſides was equally deſtitute of authority and experience.

What occaſioned this ſuſpicion was his eſtabliſhing of ſome innovations that were never practiſed by any Miniſter before him. One that made the greateſt noiſe was this, that in his Chamber of Audience he would neither give the right Hand nor a Seat to the Ambaſſadors. At firſt they ſhewed themſelves extreamly diſobliged at it, but at laſt the Nuncio and the other foreign

Miniſters ſubmitted to this Rule, and viſited him without difficulty. The Queen's Creatures made a greater buſtle about this affair than even the Ambaſſadors themſelves, who were only concerned in it, and whether they diſcourſed of it with too much freedom, or Don *Juan* only ſuſpected their private ſentiments, he cauſed ſeveral of them to be baniſhed. Among the reſt were the Admiral of *Caſtile*, the Duke *d' Oſſone*, the Prince *de Stillano*, the Marqueſs *de Manſera*, the Count *d' Humanez*, the Count *d' Aquillar*, and the Marqueſs *de Mondejar*. The laſt of whom was accuſed for making the following Verſes, but they were miſtaken in the Author, for they were written by the Admiral, who was a perſon of extraordinary wit.

Un frayle y una Corona,
Un Duque y un Carteleſta
An dubberon la liſta
De la bella Calderona.
Baylo y alguno blaſona
Que de quantos han entrado
En la dança ha averiguado
Quien llezo el prez del bayle:
Pero yo atingome al frayle,
Y quiero perder doblado.

I have here tranſlated theſe Verſes into Engliſh, altho it is certain they have nothing of the *bel air* and Spirit the Spaniſh have.

Fair Calderona, *the pride of the Stage,*
In her youth did with many a Lover engage.

Dukes,

Dukes, Actors, and Kings, in ſpight of their ſtate,
And Monks ſo demure on her Triumphs did wait.
The kind coming Nymph, as befitted her ſtation,
Receiv'd the Addreſſes of half the Creation,
And very well knew, (as Sh' had reaſon enough)
Who plaid his Cards ſureſt, and came the beſt off.
As for me, without giving my Wherefore or Why,
The Monk, the fat Monk did the buſineſs, ſay I.

De tan ſanta Confradia,
Procidio un hijo fatal.
Y coco al mas principal
La penſion de la obra pial.
Claro eſta que les diera
Lo que qui ſieſſe ſu Madre
Pero no haura a quien no quadre
Una raſon que ſi offrece:
Mireſe a quien parece
Porque aquel ſera ſu Padre.

Sole tiene una Seſial
De nueſtro Rey Soberano.
Que en nada pone la mano.
Que no le ſuceeda mal.
Aca perdio a Portugal.
En las Dunas ſu arogancia
Dio tantos triumphos a Francia,
Que es coſa de admiracion
Que dar tanta perdicion
En un hijo de ganancia.

Mande pues Carlos ſecundo
Ber ſi le huvo ſin recelo
El Rey que vive el Cielo

De una muger del mundo:
En misterio tan profundo
Solo puedo desir yo
Que por suyo le jusgo
Mas si contodo es estraño
No sea el primer engaño
Que Felipe padecio.

In this Blessed Conjunction a Bantling was got,
And the King, as best able, did pay for the shot:
He got him nurst up in a little blind quarter,
And had it been the mode there, won'd have giv'n him a Garter.
The Politick Dame, to filting well used,
With a thousand strange stories, her Lovers amus'd,
But, we, that have no inclinations to flatter,
Are resolved to be rul'd by our Eyes in the matter,
And him, for the Brat's real Father we'll find,
Whom most he resembles in Body or Mind.

Of our late pious Monarch, no marks he retains
But a constant ill conduct, ill luck, and no brains:
Through him all our hopes were in Portugal *crost,*
And Dunkirk *alas! by his folly was lost:*
The Plague of our Counsels, and Cause of our Woes,
Fresh losses attend him where ever he goos.
Well Fortune I'll call thee a Strumpet no more,
For wer't thou in truth and in earnest a Whore,
Thou oughtst to have favour'd him more than another,
And shown him respect for the sake of his Mother.

Let Charles *send an Envoy to the Mansions above,*
And let the late King all our doubts to remove,
Tell us whether he'll own Don John *for his Son,*
Since more were conceiv'd, as the Rumour does run.

His

His Mother, we know, was a good natur'd Dame,
That ſtrove to oblige all Strangers that came.
If Philip *at laſt in his judgment was gull'd;*
Pray is this the firſt time that the Monarch was fool'd?

En ſus deſinios penetro
Por una y por otra acion.
Que no tiene otra entencion
Don Juan, que empeſiar el Cetro:
Abrenuncio vade retro
Hi de Dame pára el,
Reyno, Enrique y a un fiel, (a)
Noble y valiante le admira
Haſta el dia de oy ſuſpira
La Lealtad porel cruel. (b)

OCarlos gran Rey de Eſpana,
No te eſpantes ni te admire,
Que el mundo todo ſuſpire
Con oppreſſion tan eſtrana
Noes porque el pueblo engana
El pretexto del rumor,
Si no que es tanto el amor
De la plebe laſtimoſa
Es ſolo ana vos quexoſa
Que les oprime el dolor.

By his Conduct 'tis plain both to Country and Town,
That his haughty deſigns tend all to the Crown;
But durſt he aſpire, and make ſuch a pother,
If he'd ever reflect on the Strumpet his Mother?

(a) Don Enrique II.
(b) Don Petro el cruel Matado por Don Enrique Sugrano natural.

Brave (a) Henry *'tis true, tho a Baſtard, did reign,*
But tho his exploits are ſo famous in Spain,
So ſeldom to ſerve our true Prince we have fail'd,
That in ſpight of the Tyrant, Don (b) Pedro's *bewail'd.*

Awake mighty Charles, *and thy Sceptre aſſume,*
Let the Arrogant Wretch feel the weight of his doom.
And be not amazed that the People thus cry,
Under all the oppreſſions and burdens they lie.
Though too loudly they rail at the Plague of the Age,
Their Zeal to thy Perſon excuſes their Rage.
And if they Repine, and are heard to Complain,
It proceeds from the ſmart and exceſs of their Pain.

Don *Juan* found theſe Verſes upon his Toillette, and in ſeveral other places of his Chamber; he was more concerned at them, than in reaſon he ought to be, for certainly he could never be ſo vain as to imagaine that he was equally acceptable to all the world. Theſe reſentments having ſowred and exaſperated his ſpirit, he obſerved that the converſation of the Count *de Monterey* diverted the King; this was enough to render him ſuſpected; and altho this Nobleman had ſet himſelf at the head of a party, which declared for the Prince's return, yet all his ſervices were forgot, and the prejudices of jealouſie, which are ſometimes too headſtrong to be maſtered, made Don *Juan* ſend him to command in *Catalonia*.

He afterwards baniſhed him, and what is more, ordered a Trial to be commenced againſt

(a) *Henry* the Baſtard King of *Caſtile*.
(b) *Pedro* the Cruel, King of *Caſtile*, turned out of his Kingdom by *Henry* the Baſtard in 1366, and 1367.

him

him about the affair of *Puicerda*: thus the unfortunate Count ſaw himſelf all in a moment removed from Court, where he flattered himſelf long to continue in the King's and Princes favour. But that Monarch was young, and deſtitute of experience, and beſides laboured under the ill effects of a bad education; for a Miniſter that regards nothing in the world but what has a particular relation to his own intereſts, will be ſure to keep back thoſe lights from his Prince, that may help him afterwards to diſcover by what an ill conduct he is managed. Don *Juan* was very well acquainted with the policy of this Maxim, and accordingly took care to conceal the affairs of State from the King, with as much precaution as the Prieſts keep their myſteries from the people. To make himſelf always neceſſary to him, he never inſtructed him in the art of governing, but perpetually amuſed him with ſome little inſignificant diverſions, that poſſeſſed his tender years with a ſpirit of lazineſs, which could never fail to produce ill conſequences afterwards, and never gave him leave to ſtir a foot out of the Palace but in his own company.

The people that are never ſenſible of events, but at the very moment when they feel the ſmart, had perhaps looked upon the baniſhment of the Lords, and the captivity of their King with an indifferent Eye, if they had not been ſufferers themſelves. But the great ſcarcity of proviſions that were daily inhanced, the irregular adminiſtration of juſtice, and the diſorderly management of the *Finances*, made them ſoon

ſenſible

ſenſible, that the changing of Maſters is not always for the better. And as it is natural to run headlong from one extream into another, and the juſt limits of carrying on a reformation are known but to very few perſons, ſo they began to diſreliſh the Regency, and to ſhow a diſſatisfaction, that might eaſily have been improved into an inſurrection, but that the anger of the people of *Spain* is generally weak and feeble, and 'tis not only upon theſe occaſions that the apparent fierceneſs of that Nation goes off, and vaniſhes. For 'tis very true, that the people content themſelves there with railing and murmuring, ſo that if there was any thing to be feared it was from the Grandees, who notwithſtanding their baniſhment, left very conſiderable Relations and Friends behind them at Court: Theſe being concerned to ſee them exiled, began privately to join and aſſociate for the ſame Cauſe; they proceeded ſo far as to ſignifie to the Queen that they paſſionately deſired her return, and that ſhe ought to attempt ſomething on her ſide as they were reſolved to do ſomething on theirs, and in ſhort they took an occaſion to diſcourſe the King about the matter.

They made him ſenſible that he was under a ſlaviſh ignominious dependance, and confirmed him in his natural inclinations to take the government of the State into his own hands.

He reliſhed very well the overtures they made him, and the Queen likewiſe received her informations not without pleaſure; but it was not enough to wiſh well, ſomething of Action was neceſſary: for the King was young, wanted

wanted assistance, and every one shifted it off from himself to another. The pleasures of the Court, and that laziness which is so peculiar to the Spaniards made them advance so slowly in their affairs, that Don *Juan* had leisure enough to destroy in one day the foundations they had been laying for several weeks. The Queen for her part was under a confinement, which held her chained to the place, so that she could attempt nothing without being discovered. She was afraid too of finding Traitors among her own Servants, and drawing new disgraces upon her, whilst she endeavoured to free her self from those she lay under at present. What was past instructed her in some measure to fear and avoid what was to come.

As she is naturally of a slow disposition, so after long reflections upon the matter, she was of the opinion, that she ought not by any precipitate actions hazard the future repose of her life.

Don *Juan* on his side was alarm'd with continual fears and jealousies; and having abundance of Spies about him, he was instructed of what he did not care to hear, the unwearied designs that were daily formed against him. Notwithstanding the great authority and power, with which he was invested, he could not forbear very sensibly to apprehend the bad consequences of an aversion, that began to be entertained so generally against him.

He was in a manner responsible for all the good and all the bad successes of the State, and the weight of so cumbersom a Monarchy hung very

very heavy about him. He ſometimes conſidered with regret the tranquility he had formerly enjoyed in *Flanders* and *Arragon*; in fine his ſpirit was not in its natural ſphere, and we may ſay of him, that he even overbought the pleaſure of making ſo great a figure on the Theatre of the World.

The war that was kindled 1672. between *France* and *Holland*, intereſted ſeveral Princes of *Europe*, who took their ſides in it, either according to their ſeveral inclinations, or elſe the particular engagements they had to the powers, that were then at variance. *Spain*, which is always inſeparable from the intereſts of the Empire, neither ſpared her Mony nor Forces upon this occaſion, when the *Hollanders* made a peace with *France* firſt in the year 1678. The Emperor and ſome of the Princes of the Empire followed their Example, nay *Spain* could not hinder it ſelf from doing the like. The King of *Denmark* and Elector of *Brandenburgh*, who as yet kept their Swords in their hands ſtill, laid them down likewiſe, and a peace was concluded at *Nimeguen*, that gave repoſe to all *Europe*.

In the mean time the King of *Spain* was upon the point of Marrying the Arch Dutcheſs, the Emperor's Daughter: this affair was ſo far advanced, that the Articles were regulated, and the Contract ſigned. This marriage was of the Queen's doing, who earneſtly deſired the accompliſhment of it; but Don *Juan* at his return broke off this match, not being deſirous to ſtrengthen his enemy's party, as it muſt aſſuredly have been by the acceſſion of this young Princeſs,

Princeſs, who was of the ſame Name and ſame Country with the Queen, and beſides all this, was her Grand Daughter and Neice. He too much feared the ill conſequences of this affair to give his conſent to it.

The King about his nineteenth year ſeemed to be ſetled in a healthful ſtate of body, which promiſed Succeſſors to the Crown, and he expreſſed a great inclination to be married; he conſidered that of the Houſe of *Auſtria* he alone was left remaining of the Spaniſh branch, and that his whole Kingdom had an equal intereſt to ſee him have Children.

The circumſtances of the Peace, that hapned to be concluded at *Nimeguen*, made him caſt his eyes upon Mademoiſelle, Eldeſt Daughter of Monſieur, who was the Kings only Brother. She was almoſt of his own age, amiable, well-ſhaped, of a ſweet diſpoſition, witty and charming: all her inclinations were noble and vertuous, and *Lewis* the Great took an extraordinary affection to her, becauſe her humour ſo exactly ſuited with his, ſo that all the Courtiers were ſurprized at it.

The King had accidentally ſeen ſome portraitures of this Princeſs, and ſeveral Spaniſh Lords who had been at the Court of *France* ſpake of her as a Prodigy. Theſe advantagious teſtimonies ſo luckily concurring, ſenſibly affected him, he could not take his reſt a nights, he carried her Picture next his heart, and held long converſations with it, as if it underſtood him. But what is the moſt incredible thing of all, and yet is related for a certain truth, is this, that before

fore he became enamoured he could not endure any woman near him, but theſe diſpoſitions were altered in him upon this occaſion, and he beheld the fair Sex never after with averſion.

All the people were raviſhed with joy to hear that the King deſired Mademoiſelle. The memory of Queen *Elizabeth* of *France*, the firſt Wife of *Philip* the IV. was ſo deeply imprinted upon the hearts of all the *Spaniards*, that they deſired to ſee one of the ſame blood ſit upon the Throne again.

Don *Juan* agreed with the King's inclinations, as well as thoſe of the people in relation to this Princeſs. He ſent orders to the Marqueſs *de los Balbazes* in *Flanders*, who was come from *Nimeguen*, where he had aſſiſted at the treaty of peace, to go and demand Mademoiſelle for the King his Maſter.

Every one was ſurprized that the Prince lent his helping hand to this affair. True policy would have required him to protract as long as he was able and to delay the Marriage, becauſe as it gave a Wife to the King, ſo it might perhaps give an Enemy to the Favourite.

And here many people could not forbear to call to mind the firſt Ideas of that ambition, of which he was ſuſpected, now it was for good and all to abandon the deſign of making himſelf declared Infant, to content himſelf with reigning after the King, in caſe he had no Children. Many perſons do likewiſe pretend, that notwithſtanding the great earneſtneſs he ſhowed in publick, yet he had no over great deſire to have the match ſucceed. They alledge this for a reaſon,

ſon, that he ought to have done ſomething before ſo open an Embaſſy, by way of ſecret diſpatches, which might abſolutely have had the ſucceſs of a negotiation: but that at the bottom, whatever he did or whatever he ſaid to the contrary, he did not heartily deſire it; that he was afraid leſt a French Queen, ſupported by the authority of the greateſt King in the world, would never truckle to him; that now he was Maſter, but hereafter would become no more than a Companion. Others were of the contrary opinion, and ſaid that he had a fair proſpect of being well received by Mademoiſelle, eſpecially ſince he had broke off the marriage with the Arch Dutcheſs, and given the preference to her. Theſe different conſiderations embarraſſed and perplexed Don *Juan* to ſuch a degree, that he knew not which way to determine himſelf, and even at the very time that the Marqueſs *de los Balbazes* demanded the Princeſs in *France*, he very cunningly got the King at *Madrid* to ſee the portraiture of the Infanta of *Portugal*, who was a Lady of admirable beauty: He talked exceedingly of her charms, and not knowing as yet that her marriage with the Duke of *Savoy* was agreed upon, he underhand made a propoſal to give her to the King; but he was too deeply gone to alter his affections.

The Demand made by Don *Balbazes* was very agreeable to his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, and Don *Juan* who received advice of it, did not at firſt doubt of its ſucceſs. Therefore he now endeavoured to overſhoot the favourable diſpo-

diſpoſitions of *France*, either to promote his own intereſt by it, or elſe by demanding things that were too great, to meet a refuſal, and by that means to find a plauſible pretence to break off. In effect, he pretended that Mademoiſelle not being the Daughter of a King, they ought therefore for that reaſon on the ſide of the French Court to enter into particular conſiderations, and reſtore to *Spain* ſome of thoſe places, that were yeilded up to *France* by the laſt Treaty of *Nimeguen*.

Upon this he held a Council, where he was deſirous to inſinuate his own ſentiments into them, but he found no body inclined to hearken to them. Every one concluded, that they ought to have nothing elſe in view but the King's ſatisfaction; that they were happy enough in finding out a Princeſs, that was beautiful and capable to give them a Soveraign, and that they ought not to take pains to deſtroy a thing of that conſequence, which all the world ſo earneſtly deſired to ſee accompliſhed.

The Queen who continued ſtill very ſolitary at *Toledo*, and who was conſulted in no affairs, wrote a Letter to the King, wherein ſhe told him, ſhe had received information that he was going to be married, that ſhe counſelled him in the mean time, while that affair was carrying on, to go to *Arragon*, and *Catalonia*, to confirm the ancient priviledges of thoſe people. The King ſent her barely word again that he would do it, without explaining himſelf more openly upon his marriage.

Ever

Ever since the twenty fourth of *January* 1679. the King had nominated those persons who were to fill up the respective offices of the House of the new Queen. The Dutchess *de Terra Nova* was made *Camarera Major*, that is, first Lady of Honour, but her power is of a greater extent than that of the other Ladies of Honour; because she is Mistress of all the Women that serve the Queen in her Palace. She is the Widow of the Duke *de Terra Nova*, who was of the House of *Pignatelli*, and a Grandee of *Spain*. She inherited a vast fortune that descended to her from *Fernando Cortez*, for her Mother bore the name of that famous Captain, who left her a small Kingdom in the *West Indies*, tho he might, if he pleased, have left her a more considerable one in that part of the world, where he made so great a progress.

She is descended of a branch of the House of *Arragon*, that setled a long while ago in *Sicily*; she is extreamly rich, of a fierce imperious humour towards persons that are above her, insupportable to her equals, but kind and obliging to her inferiours. She has a world of wit, is fixed in her resolutions, and is of a deep penetrating spirit: her temper cold and serious, still preserving her Spanish gravity, and never steps a foot backward or forward unless she has well considered of it before. She thunders out her *I will*, or *I will not*, enough to make one tremble.

She is a meager pale woman, of a long and wrinkled visage, her eyes little and severe, in short she makes a dangerous terrible Enemy.

Don *Carlos* of *Arragon* her Couſin German was aſſaſſinated by the Banditti, whom ſhe cauſed expreſly for that purpoſe to come from *Valentia*, becauſe he demanded of her reſtitution of the Dutchy of *Terra Nova*, which was in her poſſeſſion, altho of right it belonged to him.

The terrible noiſe this affair made in the world, obliged her to retire into *Arragon*, where Don *Juan* reſided at that time, deeply afflicted at his misfortunes.

Both of them imagined, that they had reaſon to complain of the ſeverity of their fortune, and this ſoon occaſioned a certain friendſhip between them, as it uſually happens amongſt perſons of their Quality when they come to be involved in the ſame circumſtances. After they had frequently converſed with one another, the Prince found out part of the Dutcheſſe's humour; he knew ſhe was ambitious, but as all the other ill qualities of her ſoul were outwardly ſet off by the appearance of a great devotion, he never took her for ſo malicious and ſpightful a Devil, as ſhe really was. He therefore caſt his eyes upon her to make her *Camarera Major* for the Young Queen.

The Marqueſs *d' Aſtorgas* was nominated at the ſame time to be Grand Maſter of her Houſe, Don *Juan* had ſome thoughts at firſt of conferring this Office upon Don *Vincente Gonzaga* of the Houſe of *Mantua*, and made him quit his Viceroyſhip of *Sicily* to come and poſſeſs it, which the other freely left, in conſideration of the place, that was now offered him. But his expectations were deceived; for the Marqueſs

d' Aſtor-

d' Aſtorgas, who had heaped up a prodigious wealth when he was Viceroy of *Naples*, having profered the uſe of it to Don *Juan*, who mightily ſtood in need of mony at that time and accepted the profer, was preferred to Don *Vincente*, who was admitted however into the Council of State, where his great abilities, without queſtion, did great ſervice.

Altho the Duke *d' Oſſone* continued as yet in exile, Don *Juan* did not forget to nominate him for Maſter of the Horſe to the Queen; he beſtowed that place upon him only that he might have an opportunity to take away from him that of the Preſident of the Orders, where his conduct it ſeems did not pleaſe him. He affected a certain air of devotion that ſate very diſagreeably upon him, becauſe he mixed too much Bigotry with it, and it was a ſtrange ſort of Bigotry too; for this good Duke one evening cauſed the Count *d' Humanez* to be ſet upon in the ſtreets by ſome men of *Valencia*, who never come to *Madrid* but to commit murders and other crimes of that nature. The occaſion of the quarrel was this, the Duke was paſſionately in love with a certain Lady, and ſoon after came to diſcover that the Count was a more fortunate man than himſelf. Nevertheleſs the Count eſcaped the danger. This affair made a great buſtle; Don *Juan* who was particularly diſguſted at the Duke, laid hold of this opportunity to baniſh him the Court, but now procured this conſiderable poſt for him, that he might gain over to his party a man of ſo great an importance; beſides it was his intereſt to

ſee the Chief Offices of the Queen's Houſe filled with thoſe perſons that were at his devotion, and might prepoſſeſs the mind of that Young Princeſs in favour of him. The other Officers of her Houſe were likewiſe nominated about the beginning of *March*.

At the ſame time the Marqueſs *de Manſera Mayor Domo* to the Queen Mother was fined a hundred thouſand Crowns, which he paid upon the nail. After this manner the King ſometimes puniſhes the crimes that the Grandees commit againſt him. He was ſoon after baniſhed to the Caſtle *de Cocchia*, and his place was given to the Count *de Chinchon*. But the Queen being highly incenſed at theſe proceedings, declared that ſhe would never ſuffer it, alledging that the Widow of *Philip* the fourth, and Mother of *Charles* the ſecond ought not to be treated after this unworthy manner, ſo they were forced to let the matter drop, and proceed no farther in it.

There happened a little after another buſineſs, that occaſioned a great clamour. Don *Franciſco de Toledo*, ſecond Son of the Duke of *Alva*, the Count *de Mirande* Grandee of *Spain*, the Marqueſs *de Valero* Son of the Duke *de Bejar*, and the eldeſt Son of the Duke *de Seſſa* occaſioned the eſcape of a man, that was accuſed of great crimes. The manner whereby they brought it about, was this. They ſent a woman with a basket of Fiſh to ſtand near the Priſon, ſhe ſold ſuch good pennyworths there, that a man appointed for the purpoſe having informed the Jaylor, and the Keepers of it, they preſently

ran

ran to the place to buy ſome Fiſh. The woman amuſed them with abundance of fooliſh ſtories ſo well, that ſhe ſucceeded in her deſign, for in the mean time the above-mentioned Lords broke open the Priſon Gates.

The King ordered all of them to be arreſted, however this affair, like others of the ſame nature at *Madrid*, brought no ill conſequences upon them.

The King took all the care imaginable to have the young Queens Apartments in the Palace fitted up, and made ready. He was to have gone according to the uſual cuſtom, in the month of *April* to *Aranjues*, but Don *Juan* hindred him, becauſe that place was too near *Toledo*, ſo he went to *Buen-Retiro*. The Queen Mother wrote to him thither, deſiring that he would be pleaſed to come and ſee her; but tho ſhe preſt it with a great deal of tenderneſs and importunity, ſhe was not able to ſucceed in her deſires.

He diverted himſelf every day with hunting and ſeeing Comedies, either at *Pardo* or *Zarzuela*, which are two Houſes of Pleaſure belonging the King of *Spain*. The Opera *d' Alcine* was repreſented before him, it coſt a world of mony, but was miſerably performed.

There was likewiſe a Bull-feaſt kept, where two young Cavaliers unfortunately periſhed: On the following day there was running at the ring.

About this time the Prince *de Ligne* arrived, and a day or two after kiſſed his Majeſtys hand, and took his place at the Council of State. Fa-

ther *Francis de Relux* a Dominican came likewiſe from *Salamanca*, where he had been Profeſſor of Divinity, and was choſen by Don *Juan* to be the Kings Confeſſor. The Duke of *Alva* had engaged that he ſhould ſubmit himſelf intirely to Don *Juan*'s will, who accepted him upon his parole. At this time the Cardinal *de Portacarero* Archbiſhop of *Toledo* returned from *Rome*. The Court at *Madrid* was very full and numerous.

On the twentieth of *January* the King of *France* named the Marqueſs *de Villars* to be his Ambaſſador in *Spain*, who was at that time under the ſame Character at *Savoy*. He was known to the Court of *Spain*, for in the year 1673. he reſided there in quality of Ambaſſador; he arrived at *Madrid* on the ſeventeenth of *June*, and thoſe perſons that were well acquainted with the diſpoſition of Don *Juan*, very much doubted whether he would meet with that reception, which he might reaſonably promiſe himſelf: they knew well enough that the natural haughtineſs of Don *Juan* would never comply with the inſtructions of that Miniſter, who to be ſure would never go to viſit the Prince, unleſs he were aſſured beforehand of receiving the honour of the Hand, the Step and the Chair; that Don *Juan* would never conſent to this propoſal, becauſe it was not to be imagined that he would eaſily give up the rights he had obtained over the other Ambaſſadors, and that it would be an inconvenient thing for him of *France* not to treat directly with the chief Miniſter. What people ſurmiſed upon this

this occaſion really happened, for the Prince would not bate him an ace, and the Marqueſs *de Villars* kept faſt to his inſtructions. Therefore they looked upon one another with great coldneſs, but nevertheleſs this did not hinder the Ambaſſador from having a private Audience of the King on the eighth of *July*, and a publick one a little after, upon the concluſion of his Marriage with Mademoiſelle.

Don *Juan* had three fits of a Tertian Ague towards the beginning of *July*. On the thirteenth the Secretary of the Marqueſs *de los Balbazez* arrived, who brought word that the King had conſented to the marriage of Mademoiſelle with the King of *Spain*: Nothing is equal to the joy that he ſhew'd upon this account, for he had expected the news with the greateſt impatience. He ordered *Te Deum* to be ſung at our Ladies *d' Atocha*, all the Houſes in the City were illuminated with white Wax Tapers, and Bonefires were to be ſeen in every ſtreet. An hundred and fifty Cavaliers of the beſt Families in the Kingdom performed a Maſquerade on horſeback, that conſiſted only of ſome embroiderie, Tiffany Ribbons and Feathers; for they were apparalled in black as they uſed to be, but were not maſqued at all. After this manner they ran all night, every man carrying a Flambeaux in his hand: all theſe divertiſements laſted three days and three nights. A Courier arrived ſoon after, who brought the contract of the King's marriage, this was ſoon communicated to the Queen Mother, who expreſt a great deal of joy at it. The Ratification was preſent-

ly ſent back, and Bonefires were made as before.

While the people did thus endeavour to expreſs their zeal to the King, the ſervants of the Queen Mother were buſied in finding out ſome means or other to advance her return. The Marqueſs *de Villars* had refuſed to follow the example of the other Ambaſſadors in the conduct they uſed towards Don *Juan* upon the occaſion of thoſe new cuſtoms, which they ſuffered him to eſtabliſh; and this ſeemed a favourable opportunity to perſwade the enemies of the Prince, that Monſieur *de Villars* had ſome ſecret inſtructions which were not favourable to him. They flattered themſelves immediately with the hopes of making him one of their party, and believed it would extreamly ſtrengthen their own ſide if they could once bring him over to them. Upon this conſideration, the greater part of the Courtiers applauded him mightily for his conſtancy, and made him abundance of compliments upon that ſcore. He was reſpected at *Madrid*, and had the good fortune to find out ſeveral of his friends again, and the Queen Mother ſhewed a particular eſteem for him. She gave him a very obliging proof of this, when he came to wait upon her at *Toledo*; for after publick Audience was over, ſhe was pleaſed to entertain him in private about her own Affairs, and teſtified what an entire confidence ſhe repoſed in him: But altho ſeveral propoſals were made to him, to be of a party againſt the Prince, and beſides his own natural diſpoſition led him to eſpouſe the quarrel of thoſe perſons

ſons who oppoſed a Miniſter, whoſe civilities he had no great reaſon to applaud, yet he was of opinion that in this preſent conjuncture it would be his beſt way to remain Neuter.

He conſidered ſtill, that the marriage of the King of *Spain* with Mademoiſelle would bring along with it ſome agreements that were not to be expected before the arrival of that Princeſs, that it was a ſure unfailing way to oppoſe one power to another, that this young Princeſs would never ſuffer the Miniſter of *France* to be run down in that Court where ſhe was to become the Miſtreſs and ſole delight, that it was certain ſhe would link her ſelf to the intereſts of the Queen Mother; that the moſt Chriſtian Queen who loved both the one and the other very affectionately, would be ſure to give her this in charge before her departure amongſt the other counſels, which ſhe was always to obſerve; that their credit being united together and ſeconded by all thoſe perſons, that deſired another Government, Don *Juan* would without queſtion find himſelf obliged to give way. Moſt perſons reaſoned after the ſame manner upon this affair, and encouraged one another to ſtand firm againſt the Favourite; they now began to ſpeak thoſe things aloud which before they were almoſt afraid to mutter in private, they complained of him, and importuned the King to call the Exiles home, and openly promoted the return of Queen Mother. Don *Juan* was now more diſquieted than ever: the appearance only of his fall had prevailed with ſeveral perſons, who ought to have been his Creatures, to abandon

him

him for good and all; and as for thoſe that remained, they had neither authority, nor merit enough to ſupport him. He could ſcarce find any comfort but when he was alone, but this ſort of conduct does not always afford a man a Sanctuary; for even the ſilence, the retirement, and the infinite reflections we make are rather apt to perplex and diſturb, than to relieve our ſpirits. He was ſtill more afflicted, when he ſaw ſome of his friends, or at leaſt ſuch as he believed to be ſo, embrace the intereſts that were directly oppoſite to his, and he knew they employed the Confeſſor's credit with the King to bring all theſe matters about.

I have already told you, that Don *Juan* was the man who cauſed him to come from *Salamanca*, and after he had advanced him to this preferment, thought he might ever after have him at his devotion. Nevertheleſs, whether he had promiſed him nothing, or really broke his word, 'tis certain he quitted the Prince's party, and caballed amongſt his enemies. Some people pretend that this proceeded from a principle of Conſcience, but it is impoſſible that ingratitude ſhould ever flow from a good principle. However it was, he obtained for the Princeſs *de Stillano*, who was the Duke of *Alva*'s Daughter, the return of her Husband. Don *Juan* had abſolutely refuſed it, and found ſo little credit upon this occaſion, that he was ſenſibly afflicted at it: for the thing it ſeems was puſhed ſo far, that the King out of pure complaiſance to his Confeſſor ſaid *it ſignifies nothing that Don* Juan *oppoſes it, 'tis enough that I would*

have

have it ſo. Theſe few words very much increaſed the Prince's melancholy; but as misfortunes ſeldom come unattended, there happened another mortification upon the account of the Duke of *Oſſone*, who was in the number of the Exiles. The Prince had ſent him notice by ſome of his friends, that he deſired him to throw up his place of Maſter of the Horſe to the new Queen, which he had lately beſtowed upon him, but he rejected his propoſal with the greateſt ſcorn imaginable. Don *Juan* was mightily enraged at it, and would have baniſhed him farther off, to make him ſenſible of his power, and of the affront he had done him in pretending to oppoſe his intentions: but he was ſo far from ſucceeding in his project, that he ſaw the Duke *de Medina Celi*, who hitherto kept fair meaſures with him, had prevailed with the King to recall the Duke *d' Oſſone*. The Son of the Duke *de Medina Celi* had married the Daughter of the Duke *d' Oſſone*, and this occaſioned the great friendſhip between them. The pretence was, that it was neceſſary for him to be with the Queen, and the Duke *de Medina Celi*, having found a favourable opportunity, told the King that he was not a little concerned to ſee a man of the Duke *d' Oſſone*'s quality, who had the honour to poſſeſs one of the higheſt Offices in the Queens Houſe, baniſhed ſo far from Court, at a time when all thoſe perſons that ought to ſerve her, ſhould be making preparations to meet her. The King conſented to his return, as likewiſe to the Count *de Montereys*, upon condition that they ſhould neither make nor receive any viſits at *Madrid*. A ge-

A general cuſtom ſeldom fails to hold true for any particular perſon, and 'tis an uſual obſervation, that when we begin to receive any one misfortune, we ought to expect another. Don *Juan* being perſwaded that he was not happy enough to be excepted from this invidious rule, was deſirous to ſtrengthen his party by the Authority of the Conſtable of *Caſtile*; but he met with a very unlucky rub in his way, for having engaged the Duke of *Alva* to propoſe an accommodation to him, the Conſtable calling to mind the inſupportable pride wherewith Don *Juan* had formerly treated him, and therefore ſtill looking upon the Prince as his formidable enemy, anſwered very coldly, that the time was paſt. To encreaſe his troubles, all thoſe that were exiled came into favour, for they took an opportunity to ſolicit their return whilſt he was ſick, and made ſuch advantages of that conjuncture, and puſhed matters ſo home, that the King was reſolved to call home the Queen Mother. While they were deliberating upon the conduct, that was to be obſerved in this affair, the King held a long Converſation with the Inquiſitor General; he ſent his Confeſſor to acquaint the Duke *de Medina Celi* of the Houſe *de la Cerda*, and the Count *d'Oropeza* of the Houſe of *Braganza* to meet at an appointed hour at the Inquiſitors. When they were met, the King ſent them word by the aforementioned Father *Relux* to adviſe him of the beſt method to remove Don *Juan*, and recall the Queen Mother. The day was ſpent in Conference, and after all, it was unanimouſ-

ly

ly agreed that the King ſhould depart from the Palace as if he were going out to hunt, and that before his return he ſhould ſend word to the Prince to withdraw immediately. This project was not put in execution, the Prince knew not a ſyllable of the matter, and for want of reſolution and courage the deſign fell.

On the twenty ſixth of *June*, a Bull feaſt was kept, where there was very good ſport, at the ſame time the Marqueſs *de Fuentes* got to be made Counſeller of the military Affairs. The King gave Orders to the Gentlemen of his Bed-chamber, who were to meet the Queen upon the way, to furniſh themſelves with three ſuits of clothes a peice, and two of them were to be after the *French* faſhion.

Our Ambaſſador made his entry on the thirteenth of *Auguſt*, and we did not fail to go to ſome of our Friends to behold the Show. 'Tis a cuſtom there for the King to ſend the Ambaſſador a certain number of Horſes out of his own Stable both for himſelf and his attendants, for the Ambaſſadors make their entry on Horſeback; next morning the *Major Domo* in waiting, the Conductor of the Ambaſſadors and his Deputy accompanied him from his own Houſe to the Palace. In his publick Audience, which he had of the King, he always ſpoke in *French*; the proceſſion of his Entry was a long time interrupted by the opiniatrete of the Ambaſſador of *Malta*, who pretended that his Coach ought immediately to follow that of the *Venetian* Ambaſſador, who was the laſt Ambaſſador of the Chappel, in ſuch manner that he

he was got before the ſecond Coaches of the Marqueſs *de Villars*: but to put an end to the diſpute, the Conductor of the Ambaſſadors was ſent to the Palace, where every thing was adjuſted to the advantage of the Ambaſſador of *France*, and the pretenſions of him of *Malta*, who was Don *Diego de Bracamonte*, were adjudged to be ill grounded, ſince the Ambaſſadors of Crowned Heads never gave him the Right Hand at their Houſes. After ſome inſtances on his ſide, his Coach withdrew; he is the firſt Ambaſſador of *Malta* that ever aſpired to this honour.

Don *Rodrigo de Silva de Mendoza*, Duke *de Paſtrane & de l' Infantado*, having been named by the King to go Ambaſſador extraordinary into *France*, and to carry the preſents of Marriage to Mademoiſelle, went immediately to *Toledo* to receive Orders of the Queen Mother, and being returned to *Madrid*, he departed from thence with a dozen Poſtillions, and ſix Trumpeters clad in green Velvet embroidered with Gold: He had ſeveral Gentlemen, and Pages with him, and his two Brothers Don *Joſeph*, and Don *Gaſpar de Silva* accompanied him in his journey. Donna *Catarina de Mendoza* his Mother gave him twenty thouſand Piſtoles, and five thouſand to each of his Brothers. He was deſcended in a right line from Father to Son of *Rui Gomez* Prince *a' Eboli*, who was made Duke *de Paſtrane* by King *Philip* II. whoſe *Privado* or principal Favourite he was, as his Wife, whoſe beauty has made ſo great a noiſe in the world, was his Miſtreſs. The King named the Marchioneſs

oneſs *de Mortare*, the Marchioneſs *del Freſno*, the Counteſs *de Santorcas*, the Counteſs *Dayala*, and the Marchioneſs *de Caſtra Forte* to be Ladies of Honour to the Queen; and for Maids of Honour the Daughters of the Dutcheſs *de Seſſa & de Frias*, thoſe of the Marchioneſs *d' Alcaniſa*, of the Counteſs *de Villambroſa*, of the Marchioneſs *de Villa Franca*, of the Marchioneſs *de Villa Manriquez*, thoſe of the Dukes *d' Hijar* and *d' Albe*, of the Counts *de Paredes*, and *d' Arcos*, the Siſters of the Duke *de Vareguas*, and the Marqueſs *de Godar*; the Daughters of the Duke *d' Hijar*, and *Paſtrane* were to be *Menines* or young Ladies of Honour: they are not above ten years old, and are the prettieſt Ladies I have ſeen in *Spain*. Donna *Laura d' Alarçon* was named to be the Mother of the Maids of Honour, the Sons of the Marqueſs *de Villa Manriquez*, and of the Count of St. *Stephen* to be *Menins* or Pages to the Queen, the Marqueſs *d' Aſtorgas Major Domo Major*, the Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova* to be *Camarera Major* of the young Queen. All theſe Ladies went to *Toledo* to take their leave of the Queen Mother, and at their return they went ſtrait down to the Palace, where the took poſſeſſion of thoſe Chambers that were alotted to them. The King preſented a thouſand Piſtoles to every Maid of Honour to bear the expence of their journey, with a penſion of a thouſand Ducats. He gave the title of Grandee to Don *Francis Maria Spinola* a Gentleman of *Genoa*, Duke *de S. Pierre*, and Son in Law to the Marqueſs *de los Balbazez*: He was a young Lord very well ſhaped and accompliſhed. At the

ſame

ſame time the Count *de Talara* brought the King a reſignation of his Office of Maſter of the Horſe, the averſion between him and the Admiral of *Caſtile* made him unwilling to execute his Orders, and ſince he ſaw himſelf recalled from baniſhment, he thought it the beſt way to leave the Court.

A Courier arrived from *Cales* on the twenty-ſecond of *Auguſt*, who brought the news of the ſafe arrival of the Gallions that were computed to be worth thirty Millions, but above half the treaſure belonged to the Merchants. They were once minded to ſeize the whole Cargo to defray the charge of the Marriage, and to ſerve for other occaſional expences. However after a long conſideration, the Council finding it would utterly ruin all commerce, deſiſted from the deſign.

The Miniſters and Grandees went to compliment the King on St. *Lewis*'s day, becauſe it was the Birth-day of the young Queen; he received them with a more pleaſant air than was his uſual manner, and having abundance of precious Stones in his Hat, he told them that he wore them *for the ſake of the Queen*. The Cardinal *Portocarero* came to wait upon his Majeſty, he went from *Madrid* to *Toledo* very much diſcontented; and told ſome perſons, that if the King did not receive him with more honour, than he did the firſt time, he would never come back again to Court; but he had reaſon enough now to be ſatisfied, for as he came out of the Coach he found the Halberdiers of the Guards under their Arms, touching the pavement with their

their Halberds, as they always uſe to do when the King paſſes by. So great and ſo welcom a reception made him reſolve not to give the right hand to Ambaſſadors and to the Grandees, which at firſt a little diſpleaſed ſome people, but the Dukes *de Medina Celi*, *d' Oſſone*, and *Aiva*, the Popes Nuncio, and the *Venetian* Ambaſſador having made him a viſit, were pleaſed to ſubmit to the new regulation he had eſtabliſhed, which ſome others followed after their example.

When it was known at *Madrid*, that our King was to ſwear to the Peace at *Fountainbleau* on the laſt day of *Auguſt*, the King of *Spain* came about four a clock in the afternoon to the great Gilded Hall of the Palace, to perform this Ceremony on his ſide. The Marqueſs *de Villars* came to the Palace, where he was received by the Maſter of the Ceremonies: the Conſtable of *Caſtile* followed by all the *Major Domo's* received him at the Gate of the firſt Hall; he paſſed through ſeveral rooms, each more magnificent than the other, and hung with the richeſt Tapiſtry in the world. At the upper end of the Hall there was a Scaffold erected, covered with *Perſian* Tapiſtry gounded with Gold, it was aſcended by three ſteps, the King's Throne was placed upon it, all imbroidered with large Pearls and precious Stones of admirable beauty and ſplendor. The Cardinal *Portocarero* ſate upon a Chair of State, the Conſtable of *Caſtile* upon a little low Stool; our Ambaſſador ſeated himſelf upon another Bench, the Patriarch of the *Indies* continued ſtanding: The King came

followed by his Grandees and ſate down, and thoſe whoſe right it was to ſit down and be covered, did it. Don *Pedro Colonna* Secretary of State read with a loud voice the Commiſſion which our King had ſent to the Marqueſs *de Villars* to aſſiſt at this Ceremony in his ſtead. A little Silver Table was ſet before the King, on which a Crucifix and the Goſpel was placed. The King kneeling, ſet his right hand upon the Book, all the while that the Cardinal read aloud the Oath which his Majeſty took to keep peace with *France*. When this was over, the Ambaſſador approached and made a Complement to the King, who briefly anſwered him according to the cuſtom, and returned preſently to his Apartment.

All the Court was now filled with joy: A Maſquerade on Horſeback was kept in the great Court of the Palace; it was divided into two Squadrons which ran againſt one another. Prince *Alexander Farneſe* Brother to the Duke of *Parma* led one, and the Duke *de Medina de las Torres* led the other. The King named the Conſtable of *Caſtile* and the Duke *de Medina Celi* to be Judges and Arbitrators of the Courſe.

The Marqueſs *Deſtrades* arrived at *Madrid* from the part of Monſieur, to make his Complements to the King of *Spain*. He received him very kindly and as a perſon of his merit deſerved: he went to *Toledo* to wait upon the Queen Mother, and came back immediately. On the ninth of *Auguſt* a Courier from the Marqueſs *de los Balbaſes* arived at *Madrid*, who brought the happy news that the marriage of the King with

Mademoiſelle had been ſolemnized at *Fountainbleau*, and this gave occaſion to the Maſquerades on Horſeback, and the bonefires that were to be ſeen for three days together.

All this publick rejoycing did not in the leaſt diminiſh Don *Juan*'s melancholy; and 'tis certain, the great perplexity of mind he was under very much impaired his health, and the vigour of his conſtitution. He was at a ſtand what party to take, for as he had too much bravery ever to think of giving way to his enemies, ſo his credit was not ſtrong enough to put him in capacity of reſiſting them. In this violent condition, he was ſenſible enough that he ſhould never be able to ſuſtain the weight of his affliction, and to ſay the truth, it coſt him his life at laſt: But great men ſeldom complain when they become the ſport of fortune, and after their example Don *Juan* expected his laſt day with the conſtancy and ſteadineſs of a Heroe: His Tertian Ague ſeized him again, and on the ſeventh of *September* he found himſelf ſo extreamly ill, that the Phyſitians acquainted the King that there was but little hopes of his recovery. At this news his Majeſty wept, and teſtified a ſenſible grief, He ordered Cardinal *Portocarero* to go to him and learn what condition he was in; he appeared but little concerned, and prepared himſelf for death like a good Chriſtian and Philoſopher: He comforted all his friends with a wonderful preſence of mind, *A man has lived long enough*, ſaid he to them, *when he dies without having any thing to reproach him, I mean in relation to Honour: as for*

what concerns my duty to God I have been too deficient, and the time of my repentance cannot be too long. He received the Holy Viaticum, and the King almoſt every other moment came into his Chamber, teſtifying a great deal of friendſhip for him, and tenderly complained, that he would abandon him at a juncture, when his aſſiſtance was become ſo neceſſary to him. Don *Juan* made his Will, by which he conſtituted the King his Heir, he left almoſt all his Jewels to the young Queen, and the Queen Mother, and named Cardinal *Portocarero*, the Duke *de Medina Celi*, the Duke of *Alva*, and the Preſident of *Caſtile* to be his Executors. He likewiſe gave order, that as ſoon as ever he was dead, they ſhould remove his Cabinet, which was filled with Papers of great importance, out of his own Apartment to that of the King. This extream illneſs of the Prince put ſome ſtop to the publick rejoycings that were reſolved upon, and particularly to a Bull-feaſt, but however it did not hinder them from making fine artificial Fireworks in the Court of the Palace; nay he deſired it himſelf, altho he was troubled with a furious pain in his Head, that might very well be increaſed with the noiſe of Rockets and Crackers. All this while his Phyſitians, who knew nothing of the profound melancholy wherein he was plunged, puniſhed his body for an indiſpoſition, that was properly lodged in the mind, and made him ſuffer a ſort of martyrdom by the ſeveral torments they inflicted upon him. In fine, this poor Prince died on the ſeventeenth of *September* 1679. on the very ſame day that his

his Father *Philip* IV. did. He was born in 1626. and abounded with a thousand good qualities. A little time after his birth, his Mother received the habit of a Religious Woman from the hands of Pope *Innocent* X. who was then the Pope's Nuncio to King *Philip* IV. this action of her retiring out of the world, justified her from abundance of suspicions, which people entertained upon the score of her imprudent conduct. The King did not acknowledge him till the year 1642. He had the Grand Priory of *Malta* in *Castile* bestowed upon him, and was sent against the *Portugueses* with the Title of Generalissimo of the Armies by Sea and Land. After this he reduced the City of *Naples* to its obedience, and went to *Flanders* to command the Troops there. He was Governour of the Low Countries, of *Burgundy* and *Charolois*; but he came back to march once more against the *Portugueses*. After the death of the King his Father, he passed his time, as is above mentioned, at *Consuegra*, the ordinary residence of the Grand Prior of *Castile*, and when the present King came to be of age, he continued near him. On the twentyeth his body was carried to the *Escurial*, and was interred in the *Pantheon*, for so the place is called where they lay the bodies of the Kings of *Spain*, but those of the Princes and Princesses of the Royal Family are placed in a Vault which is not far from it; nay they don't lay the bodies of the Queens of *Spain* in the *Pantheon* unless they have had Children. He left a very beautiful Daughter behind him, whom he had by a Person of Great Quality. She is

a Religious among the *Carmelites* at *Madrid*, who are called *las Descalças Reales*.

The first journey the King made after the death of Don *Juan* was to go and visit the Queen Mother, he parted the very same day from *Madrid*, and lay on the way at *Aranjuez*, and arrived the next day at *Toledo*. The Queen received him with great testimonies of tenderness, they mingled their Tears together as they embraced one another, and dined, and afterwards entertained one another a long time in private. All those that accompanied the King, kissed her Majesty's hand; so after the day was agreed upon for her to come back to *Madrid*, he left her. We may easily believe, that she took but little time to prepare her self for a journey that was so welcome to her. The King parted from *Madrid* on the twenty seventh, he lay again at *Aranjuez* and the next day he set forward to meet the Queen on the way that leads to *Toledo*. As soon as they met, he desired her to come into his Coach that they might discourse in private, and so he brought her to *Buen Retiro*, which is one of the King's Houses scituate at the end of the City. There she rested her self for some time, till the House of the Duke *Duzeda* could be fitted up for her, which it seems she chose to reside in, because the Palace was not spacious enough to lodge the two Queens. It would be an endless piece of trouble to reckon up all the Persons of Quality, besides the vast multitudes of people that accompanied their Majesties at their arrival; and indeed this mighty alteration of fortune was very remarkable on the

the Queen Mothers side. There was an universal joy for her return in the very same City, where but two years ago Don *Juan* was seen to enter as the Deliverer of his Country, and the Queen to go out like a meer Fugitive under all the weight of the publick hatred. The King tarried there till evening, and there scarce passed a day over his head, from the time he went to meet the Queen first on the Road, but he dined with her, and staid a long time in her company.

All the new Queens Family were just upon the point of going to meet her; the Dutchess *de Terra Nova* made great preparations, and since every body in a manner envyed her for having so advantagious a Post, and Don *Juan* her Protector was dead, 'twas commonly believed that she would be obliged to resign it: but she foresaw and prevented all this by taking possession of her Apartment in the Palace, from whence it was not so easie a matter to eject her now, as it would have been before. She departed on the twenty sixth of *September* with the Marquess *d' Astorga*, and the whole Family of the Queen except the Duke *d' Ossuna*, whose equipage could not be got ready, because he was but just returned from his banishment.

But before I carry on these Memoirs any farther, I judge it not amiss to speak a few words of some of the Lords that belonged to the Court when I was there. I shall particularly enlarge upon those that were of the Council of State, for it will be no small satisfaction to the Reader to know the Characters of those persons, whose

names he meets so frequently. I shall not here speak of the Duke *de Medina Celi*, nor of the Constable of *Castile*, neither do I pretend to name them according to their rank and order, but shall only place them as they occur first to my remembrance, and shall begin with

The Duke of *Alva* or *Dalbe* of the Family of *Toledo*, he has a vast estate and a considerable revenue, and yet for all that is not before-hand in the world; he enjoys several good places and a large pension at Court. He was a witty obliging person, and shew'd but little kindness to the Queen Mother. He was 67. years old.

Don *Pedro de Arragon* was formerly known by the name of the Marquess *de Pobar*, he endeavoured to relieve *Perpignan*, when he was General of the Horse, but had the ill luck to fall into the hands of the *French*, amongst whom he continued a Prisoner for some time. At his return to *Madrid*, the King made him Governour to the Prince Don *Baltazar* his Son, who died by overheating himself, and was afterwards let blood in vain. The King upon this enraged against Don *Pedro*, banished him. When the King was dead, the Queen Regent called him home, and sent him Ambassador to *Rome*. After this he was made Viceroy of *Naples*, where according to the custom he heaped a great treasure together, and what is more remarkable, knew how to keep it, for this is not the genius of that Nation. He was 77. years old.

The Admiral of *Castile* of the family *d'Henriquez*, descended from a Bastard of the Kings of *Castile*, was a great Lord, and better shaped

than

than any in the Court: he was tall of ſtature and well proportioned, the air of his face was great and noble, and he had a world of wit, was a of gentle eaſie deportment, and had nothing to trouble him, but only his being 58. years old. He had an excellent talent at writing of Verſes, which flowed naturally from him, and in theſe diverſions he employed himſelf more than in his Domeſtick affairs. He was born a Libertine, and lived private, and could not fix himſelf ſo as to make a regular Court either to the King or the Chief Miniſter. He was of opinion that whatever is done by conſtraint cannot be recompenced by all the favours of fortune, he communicated himſelf to a very few perſons, whether it were, becauſe he had too exquiſite and nice a taſt to accommodate himſelf to all the world, or becauſe he was a lover of ſolitude, which the moſt delicious Gardens and the fineſt Houſe in *Madrid* recommended to him. Formerly he kept ſome Miſtreſſes, for whoſe ſakes he almoſt ruined himſelf. He was Maſter of the Horſe to the King.

The Marqueſs *d' Aſtorgas* of the family *d' Ozorio* was in his time a perſon of the greateſt gallantry in the world, and notwithſtanding the diſadvantage of being 68. years old, continued ſtill to be ſo. He was of a chearful lively Spirit, and talked juſtly and well upon all occaſions. He was Grand Maſter of the young Queens Horſe; his Lady having entertained an implacable jealouſie and hatred againſt a young beautiful woman, for whom he had an extraordinary affection, found an occaſion to kill her, took

took out her heart and made a Ragoo of it. When her Husband had eaten part of it, she asked him how he liked it, he answered very well. I am much surprized at it, says she, for 'tis the heart of your Mistress, and immediately drew out her Head, all bloody as it was, from under her Farthingal, and so threw it upon the Table, where he was with several of his friends. 'Tis easie to imagine how deeply he was concerned at so tragical a sight, she saved her self in a Convent, whither she retired full of rage and jealousie, and never stirred out of it. The Marquess's affliction was so great, that it had like to have made an end of him. He was exceeding rich.

The Prince *de Stillano* of the House of *Guſman*, and Duke *de Medina de las Torres*, had abundance of wit, and if he had joyned a little more experience to his natural parts, had assuredly been capable of the greatest things. But he was never out of *Madrid*, and lived an effeminate lazy life there, which alienated his mind from all manner of business. He lived at *la Floride* near the Gates of *Madrid*, where he had charming Gardens, and continued there under so unconcerned a state, that he neither received nor made any visits, and never endeavoured to draw any advantages from the Court; he had a prodigious estate, but for all that it was sufficiently intangled, for want of putting every thing in order. When he married the Daughter of Duke *d'Alba* he ordered a Sedan to be made for her all covered over with plates of Gold, and garnished with Coral; but when it

was

was finiſhed, no body was found ſtrong enough to carry it. He was 42. years old, and was deeply in the intereſts of the Queen Mother.

The Duke *d'Oſſone* of the Houſe *de Giron* was Maſter both of good and bad qualities, that equally diſtinguiſhed him. He loved his friends paſſionately, and ſerved them freely with his credit and purſe, he was of a liberal temper, and a great adorer of Ladies, ſparing no coſt to ingratiate himſelf with them; he was an irreconcileable enemy, and withall was of a proud haughty imperious humour, that made him inſupportable to all the world; and yet his converſation was diverting and pleaſant enough, when he could leave off his grandeur and Rhodomontadoes. He was a man of an inflexible ſteadineſs, and always had ſome quarrel or other in Court or City. He was one of the richeſt Noblemen in *Spain*, and might be about 49. years old. He had been Vice-Roy of *Catalonia*, Governour of *Milan*, Preſident of the Orders, and was Maſter of the Horſe to the young Queen.

The Count *de Chinchon* was formerly called Marqueſs *de Bayona*: He had been General of the Spaniſh Gallies, was a brave man, he neither was rich, nor deſired to be ſo. He was 60. years old.

Don *Vincente Gonzagna*, Prince *de Guaſtalla*, had never been married, he was a very polite witty perſon, and came very young to the Spaniſh Court, where he ran through moſt of the conſiderable Poſts, and always acquitted himſelf well in them. He had been Vice-Roy of

Catalonia

Catalonia and *Sicily*, and being a man of singular integrity, Don *Juan* caused him to come to him to *Madrid*, in order to give him a place in the Council. He was 74. years old.

Don *Louis Portocarero*, Cardinal and Arch-Bishop of *Toledo*, possessed the greatest Benefices in *Spain*. He was extreamly rich, and his Arch-bishoprick was worth three hundred and sixty thousand Crowns *per annum* to him. He did abundance of good in his station, was very obliging and courteous, of an easie temper, and had the repute of being an honest man. He might be about 52. years old.

The Marquess *de Liche*, who carried the name of *de Haro Guſman*, had two very opposite qualities, he was liberal and yet covetous, he carried his magnificence even to an excess, considering his rank in the world, but especially towards his Mistresses; nevertheless he sometimes shewed his frugality in things that did him no credit. He had but an ordinary mein, and was ill-favoured, but was master of all the wit, penetration and vivacity imaginable. He was a great Lord, full of ambition and so naturally forward and adventurous, that they feared him at Court, and kept him always at a great distance. He was Ambassador at *Rome*, and was 42. years old.

The Count *de Monterey* was Brother to the Marquess *de Liche*; more medling in all affairs, and no less ambitious, but more discreet, and more moderate, gallant, liberal and witty. He had a great deal of experience and people were well contented with his conduct in the Govern-

ment

ment of *Flanders*. He was not above 40. years old. 'Twas obſervable, that he was well-ſhaped, and his Wife very deformed, whereas the Marqueſs *de Liche*, his Brother, was very deformed, and his Wife exceeding beautiful.

The Marqueſs *de los Balbazes* a *Genoeſe*, of the Houſe of *Spinola*, was very rich. He was not without juſtice reproached for falling into an exceſs in the management of his domeſtick concerns. He married the Siſter of the Conſtable *Colonna*: The bigneſs and and figure of that Lady were very remarkable. It muſt be owned that he had both zeal and capacity for the ſervice of his Maſter. He had been Governour of *Milan*, and afterwards was Ambaſſador at *Vienna* and at *France*, and Plenipotentiary at *Nimeguen*. He was 50. years old.

Don *Diego Sarmiento* was originally of *Gallicia*, his birth was not illuſtrious. The Queen Mother protected him, and procured for him the place of Councellor of State, becauſe he was altogether devoted to her ſervice. He was a perſon of great abilities and prudence, and reckoned to be 58. years old.

The Duke *de Villa-Hermoſa* of the Houſe of *Borgia*, mightily increaſed his fortunes during his ſtay in *Flanders*, where he was Governour. He paſſed for a perſon of great bravery, and had the Character of a ſweet-tempered affable man. He was not very rich, and might be about 50. years old.

Don *Melchior Navarra* owed his elevation to his good fortune, and to the Queen Mother. He was a man of great merit and knowledge, and

was a member of the Council Royal. He left *Spain* in the year 1680. to be Vice-Roy of *Peru*, and was supposed to be 50. years old.

The Marquess *de Los-Velez* was Son to the Marchioness *de Los-Velez*, who had been Governante to the King: he married the Sister of the Dutchess *de Medina Celi*, he was Vice-Roy of *Naples*, and made himself to be beloved there for his good qualities. He was master of a great fortune, but of greater vertues, and was but 30. years old.

The Count *d'Oropeza*, who carries the name of *Toledo* conjunctly with that of *Portugal*, was young and not above 30. years old. His stature was somewhat of the lowest, otherwise he was well enough made as to his person, of a smiling agreeable countenance, and a sweet and insinuating conversation, open in appearance, but in effect very reserved and close, not always speaking as he thought, and generally intent upon nothing but to deceive and amuse. He pretended to be devout, and under the exteriour shew of unconcernedness for the world concealed his great ambition, to which he might be prompted perhaps by his illustrious birth: he was of the House of *Portugal*, and presumptive Heir of that Kingdom in case the King had no Children. The King at that time loved him exceedingly, and this love has been since wonderfully increased, he is become a Favourite and chief Minister.

The Marquess *de Mansera* had been formerly sent Ambassador into *Germany*, and afterwards was made Vice-Roy of *New-Spain*, where he enriched himself, and came back to *Madrid*:

he

he was of so unhealthful a constitution, that he could not fill the chief places of the Government, which otherwise he might have done, being a person of great capacity, in regard of his experience and judgment. He was 59. years old.

The Duke *d' Albuquerque* was General at Sea, he was very brave, and was not destitute of wit. He married the Daughter of his Eldest Brother to keep up the name of his Family, which was that of *Cueva*, and was very antient. He might be about 48. years old.

Don *Juan Jeronimo d' Eguya* was born at *Gesne*, but his family was of *Navarre*, and his Father had been Gentleman to the Duke *de Tarcis*: he was well shaped and agreeable, had abundance of wit, and lived in the quality of a Page to Don *Pedro Fernandez del Campo*, Secretary of State: his Master loved him exceedingly, and made him his chief Commissary. He afterwards rose to be Secretary; for Don *Pedro del Campo* not being in the good graces of *Valenzuela*, *d' Eguya* was chosen to officiate in his place by a Commission, and after some time had the good fortune to get it for himself, for he, to whom it belonged, died of grief because he was not permitted to exercise it any longer. The King had a great kindness for him, and he behaved himself towards his Majesty with all the Address imaginable. His Office was under the King's apartment, he was called Secretary of State and *del Despacho Universal*. He was never of the Council: his employment directly fastned him to the person of the King and

chief

chief Miniſter. He kept the *Bolſillo*, without being obliged to give up his accounts. Now theſe are the fines that come to the King, as well from *Spain* as the *Indies*; they amount to a prodigious ſumm, and are employed for ſecret ſervices, either by way of preſents or penſions.

All theſe perſons, whom I have mentioned, were very eminent and conſiderable, and poſſeſſed the Chief Offices and greateſt employments.

There is another Claſs of Courtiers ſtill behind, which is only compoſed of young Lords, who are there called *Guaps*, as we call them in *France les petits Maitres*. The moſt witty and well-ſhaped among theſe are reckoned to be the Duke *d'Uzeda*, the Marqueſs *de Penaranda*, the Count *d'Altamire*, the Sons of the Duke *de Ceſſa*, the Prince *de Montoleon*; Don *Antonio* and Don *Franciſco de Toledo*, Sons of the Duke *Dalbe*, and Don *Fernand de Toledo* his Nephew, the two *Silva* Brothers to the Duke *de Paſtrane*, the Marqueſs *de Leyva*, the Duke *de Medina Sidonia*, the Marqueſs *de Quintana*, and the Son of the Duke *de Medina Celi*. Altho the eldeſt of theſe Lords is not above 25. years old, yet they were moſt of them married; for they take care in *Spain* to make themſelves acquainted with his Godſhip *Hymen*, as ſoon as is poſſible.

And now as for the Ladies, I ſhall only ſay in general, that there is no place in the world where they have a greater ſhare of vivacity and wit, and a better talent to pleaſe, than they have in *Spain*; amongſt theſe, without reckoning

ing the Maids of Honour that belonged to the two Queens, the moſt remarkable for wit were the Dutcheſſes *Dalbuquerque*, *de Terra Nova*, *d' Oſſone*, *de Frias*, *de Medina Celi*, *d' Hijar*, *de Peſtrane*, and the Counteſſes *de Monterey* and *de Villambroſa*; for beauty the Marchioneſs *de Liche*, the Princeſs *de Montelion* the Marchioneſs *de la Roche*, the Counteſs *de Penaranda*, the Princeſs *Stillano*, the Dutcheſs *d' Oſſeda*, the Wife of Don *Pedro* of *Arragon*, that of Don *Henrique Henriques*, and the Marchioneſs *de la Puebla*. The conſtraint wherein they live, the climate of the Country and their own natural temper carry them to gallantry on courſe. They are for the moſt part little, lean and ſlender, their skin is ſwarthy, ſoft, and painted, their features regular, their eyes full of fire, their hair black and in great abundance, and their feet ſmall to admiration. Their habit ſits ſo ill upon them, that unleſs one has been long accuſtomed to it, ſhe can ſcarce know how to endure it. The men are no leſs diſadvantageouſly apparalled; they always come to Court in their *Golilla* and a black Cloak and hanging ſleeves, and altho they be never ſo well ſhaped and handſom, with fine heads of hair and good features, yet their awkward way of dreſſing and parting their hair on one ſide of their face, and throwing it behind their ears, does abominably diſfigure them.

This digreſſion has cauſed me to interrupt the ſeries of theſe Memoirs, but now to reaſſume my diſcourſe, I muſt inform my Reader, that the good underſtanding which paſſed between the King and the Queen Mother, occaſioned abundance of people to make their court to the

latter.

latter. They looked upon her as a Princeſs, who had aſſumed all her former Authority, for the King was ſtill young, and had need of good counſel, and his Mother being accuſtomed to Govern, was for all ſorts of reaſons more capable to direct him than any one beſides. Nay it was commonly believed, that ſhe would not be diſpleaſed to take the Government again into her hands, and ſo ſome by inclination, and others out of policy endeavoured to get into her favour, in order to obtain ſome place or other under the new Miniſtry, that was going to be formed, as well upon the ſcore of her return, as the arrival of the young Queen.

The world had reaſon to believe, that the face of affairs would be abſolutely changed, and therefore every one thought of himſelf in the preſent conjuncture. 'Tis true abundance of perſons that were very well read in politicks, judged that the Queen Mother would not perhaps manage the Reins of the Government, they pretended 'that this would be always a 'weighty and troubleſom Charge, that ſhe had 'been of late years accuſtomed to eaſe and qui'etneſs, and having undergone all the varieties 'of an uncertain fortune, ſhe was afraid of ſee'ing her ſelf expoſed to them the ſecond time; 'that there was hopes ſhe would diſſwade the 'King from taking a chief Miniſter, and that 'ſhe would be forward enough to make him 'conceive an averſion for one; that to effect this 'ſhe only needed to put him in mind of the 'ſorry figure he made, when Don *Juan* had 'ſuch an authority over him, and that in fine 'ſhe would endeavour to form a Junta, which

'ſhould

'ſhould be compoſed of her own Creatures; 'that this would be the true way to Reign, 'without making her ſelf reſponſible for any 'events; that all her Orders would be punctu-'ally executed, and yet ſhe not appear to have 'any hand in them. I ought to acquaint my Reader, that a *Junta* is an extraordinary Council of State, which the Kings of *Spain* erect to remedy the preſſing neceſſities of the State: For example, *Philip* IV. by his laſt Will created a *Junta* to ſerve and aſſiſt the Queens Council during the minority of the King his Son.

Thus people ſearched after, and as eaſily found out the Lords who were to compoſe this *Junta*; the hatred or the friendſhip of thoſe perſons that made reflections upon the preſent affairs enriched or impoveriſhed thoſe they had a mind to; they beſtowed Offices and took them away, they made vows to no purpoſe, and had effectual fears and apprehenſions upon them: In a word, all theſe buſie Spirits were divided upon the point, and the moſt quiet among them found themſelves ſomewhat concerned for what was to come. But the Queen Mother made no ſtir, ſhe ſeemed in appearance to have no other thoughts than how to eſtabliſh her ſelf in the favour of the King her Son, and ſerve her ſelf in the ſame condition.

This young Prince was paſſionately in love, and was ſenſible of all the pleaſure that accompanies thoſe agreeable Ideas, that love uſes to inſpire, and flattered himſelf to ſee all his expectations ſuddenly crowned; the poſſeſſing a Princeſs, who was already become ſo dear to him,

employed his heart to ſuch a degree, that he could think of nothing elſe. He preſſed the time of his departure that he might be the ſooner with her.

The arrival of the Courier, who brought the news, that the Queen was advanced towards the frontiers was expected with extream impatience. The Marqueſs *de los Balbazes* ſent them word exactly on what day ſhe was to arrive at *Irun*: while ſhe was in the territories of *France* the Kings Houſhold waited upon her. The Prince *d' Harcourt* accompanied her in quality of Ambaſſador Extraordinary and the Princeſs his Wife likewiſe made the journey. The Mareſhal *de Clerambaut*'s Lady who was Governneſs to her, waited upon her as Lady of Honour, Mademoiſelle *de Grance* as Lady of the Wardrobe, and this place has left her the name of Madam inſtead of that of Mademoiſelle. Nothing was omitted in any of the Cities through which her Majeſty paſſed, to receive her with a reſpect ſuitable to her high rank, and we may ſay ſhe ſo much ſet off the grandeur of her Birth by her natural beauty, and by her engaging and courteous deportment; that all *France* was ſenſibly grieved to loſe her.

One of the firſt perſons that took the freedom to ſpeak to the Queen and give her advice was a Religious *Theatin*, called Father *Vintimiglia*. He was born in *Sicily* of an Illuſtrious Family, and was Brother to the Count *de Prade* who happened to be Governour of *Palermo* at the time when that City revolted in the late troubles. He had been ſeized, and people thought it would

would have coſt him his head, but he got the favour to be ſent to *Madrid* to juſtifie himſelf; his Brother the *Theatin* went along with him to aſſiſt him with his credit. He was a bold hardy adventurous man, and devoted himſelf entirely to Don *Juan*, and his zeal for that Prince carried him ſo far, that in ſome of his Sermons he ſpoke of the Queen Mother with very little reſpect. This Father departed from *Madrid*, in company with the Duke *d' Oſſone*, and tho he had not now any hopes of being made the Queens Confeſſor, as he had before the death of Don *Juan*, yet he could not forbear to go as far as *Bayonne* to ſalute her; his deportment, his birth, and his knowledge of the *French* tongue, which he ſpoke perfectly well, becauſe he had reſided a long time at *Paris*, procured him acceſs enough to the young Queen to take his opportunity of prepoſſeſſing her with ſome ſuſpicions and jealouſies againſt the Queen her Mother in Law, and the *French* Ambaſſador. By this piece of conduct he did not only deſign to injure thoſe perſons who had formerly been enemies to Don *Juan*, but he had a particular aim, that perſonally reſpected himſelf, and wherein his ambition had by much the upper hand of his diſcretion: and that was to perſwade the Queen to endeavour the erecting of a *Junta*, that was to depend ſolely upon her. He told her, that in order to bring this deſign about, ſhe was to chuſe the Duke *d' Oſſone* to be a member of it, becauſe he was a perſon of conſummate abilities, and beſides had a great zeal for her Majeſty, he took care to reckon

himſelf in the number of the Miniſters, and could not forbear to write a Scheme of the Government; the memoirs of which he gave to the Duke *d' Harcourt*, to the end that he might preſent them to the Queen, but 'tis very probable, he never ſhowed them to her Majeſty.

The Queen was now advanced as far as St. *John-de-Luz*, and ſhe departed from thence about one a clock in the afternoon on the third of *November*, followed by the Guards *du Corps* of the King. She came to a wooden houſe that was purpoſely prepared for her, it was gilded and painted within and without, there was a great Hall in it, a Chamber, and a moveable Cloſet of Crimſon-Damask with Galloon and a rich Lace of Gold and Silver. This houſe was ſcituate upon the brink of the River *de Bidaſſoa* which parts *France* from *Spain*. As ſoon as the Queen arrived there, ſhe put on a moſt ſumptuous Habit, then coming into the Hall, ſhe took part of a noble Collation: There ſhe ſtaid a little, and afterwards retired into her Chamber, after this ſhe aſcended a Scaffold, and placed her ſelf in a Chair of State under a noble Canopy; at this very moment ſhe was ſeized with an air of melancholy which ſhewed what a regret ſhe had to be ſo near leaving *France*. The Prince *d' Harcourt* placed himſelf at her right hand, the Princeſs *d' Harcourt* at her left, the Mareſhal *de Clerambaut*'s Lady and Madam *de Grance* behind her Chair. Monſieur *de Saintot* went to inform the Marqueſs *d' Aſtorgas* of it, who was *Major Domo* to the Queen. He was in a Boat upon the River, near a little Iſland, which the

Treaty

Treaty of the *Pyranees* has rendred since so famous, and which was joyned to the Queen's House by a Bridge of Communication. The Guards *de Corps* formed themselves into several Squadrons in this place. The Marquess was waiting for his orders in this Boat, which was very magnificent, and was prepared on purpose to carry her Majesty over to the other side.

As soon as he was informed that the Queen expected him, he set foot upon the ground, and fourscore persons, Gentlemen, Pages, or Valets marched on foot before him, he threw himself immediately at the feet of the Queen, kissed her hand, made her a Complement, got up again, and covered himself, without staying for the Queen to say any thing to him. The Prince *d'Harcourt* covered himself likewise at the same time. The Marquess spoke to her all the while in *Spanish*, and presented her Majesty with two Letters from the King and Queen Mother; but before he gave them, he touched them upon his Forehead, his Eyes, his Mouth, and his Heart, as the fashion is. The Queen told him she was extreamly glad that the King her Husband had given him the charge of conducting her. After this the old Marquess turned himself towards the Prince *d'Harcourt*, and made him a Complement, who answered that he had orders from the King his Master to deliver the Queen of *Spain* into his hands. Monsieur *de Chateauneuf* Counsellor of the Parliament of *Paris*, read the Act of Deliverance in *French*; and Don *Alançon, Garnero*, Secretary of State, read the Act of Reception in *Spanish*. The Marquess presented several

veral persons of Quality to her Majesty, who kissed her hand kneeling down upon one Knee. The Bishop of *Pampelune* kissed her hand, but did not kneel. The Queen did not press to depart, but the Marquess informed her that it was high time to march; she immediately arose, placing him on her right hand and a *Menin* of Honour on her left, upon whose shoulder she leaned, for he was a young Boy, and thus she advanced towards the Bridge. The Dutchess *de Terra Nova* met her just about the middle, and kissed her hand with the Ladies of the Palace that followed her, who threw themselves all at her feet. After the Dutchess had made her Complement, she presented several Spanish Ladies to the Queen. Monsieur *de Repaire*, Lieutenant of the King's Guards *du Corps*, who carried the Queens Train, gave it to the Dutchess. The Queen entred into the Boat along with her, her Chamber was glazed all over; and thus being all alone with this old Dame, she cast her eyes frequently towards that side of the Kingdom which she had quitted, and her languishing air sufficiently testified by what commotions she was agitated within. Twenty four Seamen placed in two Barques drew the Boat along, and the Spanish Horse discharged their Musquetoons and Pistols as soon as it began to move, the artillary of *Fontarabia* answered them with a great firing. The Prince and Princess *d' Harcourt*, the other Ladies and all the Queens Attendants passed over in Boats that were prepared on purpose. The Queen setting foot upon the Ground towards the evening, found her own

Coach,

Coach, her Litter, and a Chair with abundance of men in Liveries; she placed her self in her Chair, and twenty Valets on foot lighted the way with long Flambeaux of White Wax: when they came to *Irun*, *Te Deum* was sung, and this was the first time her Supper was served after the Spanish fashion; the repast was so little and so ill dresst, that she was extreamly surprized at it, and could scarce eat at all.

Alas! that a young Princess bred up in the most magnificent and refined Court in the World should be forced to pass so many sorrowful melancholy moments. She had always had the liberty hitherto to eat in publick, and it had not been denied to her upon the way; she danced, she rode on Horseback, she knew and esteemed those that were her Companions, and they (if I may use the expression) adored her. And now she found her self all on a suddain amongst persons whom she knew not, and consequently could not appear amiable enough to divert her grief, she understood so very little of their language, that she could not tell what they meant, or return them any answer without trouble; then besides all this, the manner wherein they served her appeared so strange, and carried so small a resemblance to that of *France*, that she was not a little discomposed at it. All was Ceremony, all was Restraint and Affectation; from the very first day she appeared amongst them, the *Spaniards* expected she should know and do every thing as readily as themselves, who had been learning them the better part of their lives. They never considered

the

the difference between the two Nations, that are oppoſite to one another in every punctilio, but believing that her Majeſty ought immediately to be made acquainted with their way of living, which ſhe was religiouſly to obſerve for the reſt of her life, they diſpenſed with her in nothing, ſo that from that time ſhe ſuffered a kind of ſlavery, to which the rigid humour of her *Camarera Major* contributed very much; but the natural ſweetneſs of the Queens temper, and her prudence made her receive all theſe things, that naturally fatigued and diſpleaſed her, with a world of patience.

Nevertheleſs one would have been apt to conclude, that out of meer policy the Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova* ought to have managed the good diſpoſition of the Queen after another manner, eſpecially ſince having no intereſt in her at preſent, ſhe ought by a courteous deportment to have gained her favour, becauſe ſhe had ſo great a number of conſiderable enemies; and the greateſt part of the Court Ladies were deſirous of her place. The Prince who advanced her to this Poſt, was already dead, all appearances ſeemed to predict her fall, and ſhe her ſelf was very apprehenſive of it. However ſhe took different meaſures from what any body would have thought ſhe ought to obſerve, for inſtead of ſhewing any complaiſance to her young Miſtreſs, ſhe became a ſpy upon her actions, ſo that by this means ſhe might merit the King's favour. She ſtudied all her inclinations, and her humour, ſhe frequently cauſed ſome *French* women, that followed her to *Madrid* to be entertained,

entertained, ſhe drew ſtrange conſequences from the ſlighteſt occaſions, and every thing became poiſon in her hands. She likewiſe drew for her ſelf a Plan of the conduct ſhe was to follow, and this effectually hindred her from being turned out of her Poſt.

She was not only content with taking theſe remote meaſures to ingratiate her ſelf with the King, but likewiſe was of opinion, that to ſecure her own intereſts, ſhe was to hinder the young Queen from ever having any friendly correſpondence with the Queen Mother, or repoſing any confidence in her: becauſe her party being abſolutely oppoſite to that of Don *Juan*, it was natural to believe that the firſt ſacrifice ſhe would demand of her Daughter in Law, would be the removal of the *Camarera*, who was the Creature of her Enemy. Beſides ſhe could not flatter her ſelf, that the young Queen would refuſe to give the Queen Mother this proof her complaiſance, at a conjuncture that would deliver her from a ſort of a Governeſs, whom ſhe had no great reaſon to love; thus ſhe could not think of a better expedient to ſupport her ſelf, than by poſſeſſing the Queen, 'that the Queen Mother was her ſecret enemy; 'that ſhe would oppoſe her in every thing; that 'ſhe could never forget that ſhe was in part the 'cauſe that the marriage of the Arch Dutcheſs 'her Grand-Daughter was not conſummated 'with the King her Son; that ſhe was always 'uneaſie becauſe ſhe had not that aſcendant, as 'ſhe deſired, over the King's affections; that ſhe 'was reſolved to keep her under a ſubjection

'that

'that was more befitting a Daughter in Law, 'than the Spouſe of ſo great a Monarch.

To effect this more eaſily, ſhe had inſtructed ſome perſons that ſtood very near the Queen, who acted their parts well enough. When they firſt took the liberty to diſcourſe her about this affair, ſhe thought them to be altogether devoted to her ſervice, and their pretended tears ſeemed to engage for the ſincerity of their apparent zeal, 'What have you loſt Madam, 'would they ſay to her ſometimes with a mourn-'ful air, What have you loſt by the Death of 'Don *Juan*? What would not he have done 'to pleaſe you? If it had not been for him the 'King had married the Arch Dutcheſs, and his 'breaking off that Match drew abundance of 'mortal enemies upon him. Now if you could 'promiſe your ſelf, that the Ambaſſador of '*France* would prove faithful to you, you might 'find ſome conſolation in him, you might fol-'low his advice, and profit your ſelf by his di-'rections; but conſidering his preſent diſpoſiti-'ons, Heaven preſerve you, Madam, from ta-'king his Counſel: Alas, he quarrelled with 'Don *Juan* only upon the Queen Mothers ac-'count, he clearly declared himſelf for her in 'his firſt Embaſſie, and ſhe repoſes an intire 'confidence in him. Thus your Majeſty can-'not ſhow your ſelf too great a ſtranger to ſuch 'a Miniſter, that will never go cordially along 'with you, and who will penetrate into your 'private ſentiments for no other reaſon, than 'only to make an ill uſe of them. The Queen was extreamly alarm'd at the things they told her,

her, and knew not which way to determine her ſelf, being ſo young, and having no experience in this new world, where ſhe was acquainted with no body.

She departed from *Irun*, and lay that night at *Hernani*. The next day ſhe mounted on Horſeback, followed by the Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova*, who made but a ſorry figure upon her Mule; Madam *de Grance* accompanied her. The Marqueſs *d' Aſtorgas*, and the Duke *d' Oſſone*, with each a pair of Spectacles upon their Noſe, as is the faſhion of the Grandees, bore their ſhares in the Cavalcade. The Marqueſs placed himſelf next her Majeſty, becauſe ſhe was to be his charge till ſhe ſaw the King; but the Duke pretended a right to the ſame place, as being Maſter of the Horſe, and ſo took it by force, menacing the Marqueſs very haughtily. This diſpute obliged the Queen to take Coach again. She lay that night at *Toloſette*, where as ſoon as ſhe was arrived, the Duke *d' Oſſone* arreſted the Guard, who had abuſed his Coachman, becauſe he would not ſuffer the Coach of the Marqueſs *d' Aſtorgas* to go before his. This quarrel was renewed upon the diſcharging of their Offices; the Marqueſs pretended, that all the honours of the Queens Reception belonged to him; the Duke maintained that he being Maſter of the Horſe, ought therefore to have all the pre-eminences in her Houſe. To decide the matter, they were forced to write to the King about it, who decided it in favour of the Marqueſs. The Duke not thinking himſelf juſtly dealt with, continued his pretenſions ſtill,

but

but this obſtinacy drew an Order upon him to return to *Madrid*, with a prohibition to paſs through *Burgos*, where the King was at that time.

In effect, the King left *Madrid* on the twenty ſecond of *October*, being but ſlenderly accompanied. The Duke *de Medina Celi*, Lord Chamberlain, the Conſtable, and Don *Joſeph de Silva* were all three in his Coach; as for the Admiral of *Caſtile* he did not go along with them, for he pretended that for want of mony he was not in a capacity to fit out an anſwerable equipage: there might indeed be ſomething of truth in this pretence; but it is certain, that his natural lazineſs was the real occaſion, he loved his pleaſure, he ſhunned all trouble, and carefully avoided whatever might make him uneaſie, and this was the true reaſon why he did not meet the King and Queen till they were within a days journey of *Madrid*. The King continued fifteen days at *Burgos*, becauſe he was extreamly troubled with a Cold, in the mean time the Queen advanced forwards by ſmall journeys. She wrote to him ſeveral times, and he anſwered her again. Her Majeſty was forced to ſend to him to demand leave to dine in publick, and ſometime to ride on Horſeback; for thoſe two terrible Creatures the Marqueſs *d' Aſtorgas*, and the *Camarera Major* would not conſent to it, till they had received poſitive Orders. He granted it very freely, and ſhe ſent to him in this place a Watch beſet with Diamonds, and a Cravat with a Knot of a fire colour. He immediately put on the Cravat, and ordered five hundred Piſtols to be given

given to the Gentleman who brought him the Preſent.

The Count *d' Altamire*, Grandee of *Spain*; came to *Ognate* to complement the Queen from the King, and preſented her with Bracelet of Diamonds and Rubies. She arrived on the eleventh to *Victoria*, where a lamentable Comedy was prepared to Regale her. There it was that ſhe dreſt her ſelf firſt *a l' Eſpagnolle*, and ſhe appeared no leſs beautiful and charming in that, than in her *French* Habit. She went likewiſe to the Great Church, where the Biſhop of *Calahorra* received her at the Gate, and held the Canopy over her, ſhe afterwards was pleaſed to go and ſee a Bull-feaſt in the Market-place, but there was little or no magnificence in the ſight, becauſe it was only performed by Citizens. She received in this place a pair of Pendants for the Ears, with Pearls to them of a Pear faſhion, this preſent was ſent to her from the Queen Mother, and was valued at four hundred thouſand Livers.

Monſieur the Ambaſſador of *France* came to wait upon her at *Bribieſca*, and tho he tarried but a little time with her, and their Converſation was but ſhort, yet he could very eaſily obſerve that ſhe expreſt a great uneaſineſs, and a particular diſtruſt of him; he could not penetrate into the reaſon of it, however he preſently judged that theſe diſpoſitions were not natural to her, he told her ſeveral things that might be ſerviceable to her, he adviſed her not to amuſe her ſelf with the different impreſſions that any perſons might endeavour to make upon

upon her, that ſhe ought to conſider that the greateſt part of thoſe that waited on her only minded their own proper intereſts, that her ſureſt way would be to love the King cordially, and ſo by that means engage him to love her; to unite her ſelf to the Queen Mother, and concert all affairs with her; that ſhe ought to reſt ſatisfied, that that Princeſs had a great kindneſs for her, and that if ſhe took care to make ſuitable returns, ſhe would find the affections of a true Mother in her. The young Queen was already prepared for this diſcourſe, and particularly for what concerned the Queen Mother. She had been tampered with upon that point before, but if ſhe had ſeriouſly examined what he ſpoke to her, ſhe had ſoon been made ſenſible, as ſhe was a perſon of extraordinary wit, that the Ambaſſador dealt plainly with her, and that whoever perſwaded her to the contrary, endeavoured to diſunite her from her real intereſts. He took his leave of her, and went back to the King at *Burgos*, and during this ſhort time he had the honour to diſcourſe with her, ſhe ſtill entertained him with great coldneſs and indifferency.

The Prince *d' Harcourt* was advanced as far as *Burgos* to ſalute the King; and ſince the Queen was to come to *Quintanapalla*, which is within three leagues of it, it was generally ſuppoſed that ſhe would come to lie there on the nineteenth of *November*, and that the Ceremony of the Marriage would be there ſolemnized: But the Marqueſs *de Villars*, having met, as he was coming back, the Patriarch of the *Indies* who was

was going to meet the Queen, it came immediately into his head, that the Marriage might perhaps be consummated, without his being informed of it; this thought made him inquire the news of Don *Geronimo d' Eguya*, Secretary of State, who only told him, that the Queen was expected the next day at *Burgos*. This doubtful answer, which had nothing positive in it, obliged our Ambassador to inform himself still more particularly, and he understood at last that the King was to go the next day to *Quintanapalla* to celebrate the Marriage. Being assured of this, he took care to send advice of it to the Prince *d' Harcourt*, and they departed together soon enough to be with the Queen before the King arrived thither.

When they came there, they found it no difficult matter to discover, that the *Spaniards* desired to have the Marriage solemnized without them. The *Camarera Major*, who was altogether of that opinion, and to whom they spoke with abundance of honest freedom, told them coldly that they were not to assist at the Ceremony, and that the King would have no body be there, except only those whose presence was indispensably necessary, such as the chief Officers, and some Gentlemen of the Bed-Chamber. The Prince *d' Harcourt* and the Marquess *de Villars* answered, that the King their Master had given them Orders to be present at it. She fiercely replied, that the King their Master had nothing to do to command in *Spain*. Monsieur *de Villars* told her that the King his Master was used to command his Ambassadors, and that they

would obey him in every thing; that if the King was not willing to have them aſſiſt at his Marriage, he ought to ſignifie to them by an order in writing that they were not to be there. The *Camarera* raviſhed with joy that ſhe had an opportunity to ſhow her zeal for the King of *Spain*, altho this was a very improper time for it, was ſo far tranſported with the matter, and ſpoke ſeveral things ſo incoherent and ſo fierce, that the Ambaſſadors left her and addreſſed themſelves to the Marqueſs *d' Aſtorgas*; he patiently liſtned to them, and told them ingenuouſly that he would immediately diſpatch a Gentleman to the King to know his pleaſure herein. This Gentleman found him on the way, and he conſented that the Meſſieurs *d' Harcourt* and *Villars* ſhould aſſiſt at the Ceremony. In ſhort it was occaſioned by the induſtrious diligence of ſome perſons who had no inclination to the *French*, that this thought was infinuated into the King: They were of opinion, that ſo Auguſt a Marriage ought not to be Celebrated in a poor Village, where there were not above a dozen Houſes, and their *Spaniſh* vanity was ſo extreamly offended at it, as to deſire that the Ambaſſadors of ſo great a King might not be witneſſes of ſo great a negligence, not to ſay miſery. And now, to excuſe the matter, they gave out that the King was young and amorous, that every thing that haſtned the pleaſure of ſeeing his Spouſe touched him ſo ſenſibly, that he even forgot the magnificence and grandeur of his Rank; that love alone made up the Honours of his Feaſt, and that the King thought this alone ſufficient:

ſufficient. The Queen having paſſed the night at *Quintanapalla*, about ten a clock in the morning was told that the King was arrived; this news cauſed a ſmall emotion in her, and ſpread a colour upon her Cheeks that made her ſtill appear more beautiful and lovely. She went to receive him in her *Spaniſh* dreſs, and having met him as he was juſt going to enter her Anti-Chamber, ſhe would have thrown her ſelf ſeveral times at his feet, and kiſſed his hand, but he hindered her ſtill and ſaluted her after the *Spaniſh* faſhion, that is, without kiſſing her, but preſſing her arms cloſe with his two hands, and calling her often *Mireina*, *Mireina*, my Queen, my Queen. They diſcourſed together a long time, without being able to underſtand one another, and this was certainly no little pain to them. Monſieur *Villars*, who perceived it, advanced forward to ſerve as an Interpreter; if he did not ſay every thing they ſaid, it is at leaſt very certain that he ſpoiled nothing of their converſation, and that he mingled a great deal of tenderneſs, and paſſion with it. The King was dreſt *a la Scombergue*, which is properly after the *French* mode, and all his attendants were clad after the ſame manner: For the campagne habits of the *Spaniards* ſomewhat reſemble ours.

The Marqueſs *de Villars* having obſerved that the Grandees of *Spain* took the right hand, ſpoke to the King about it, and repreſented to him, the rank the Marqueſs *de los Balbazes* had given to him at *Fountainblean*, when the Queen was eſpouſed there. This reaſon prevailed, ſo the King ordered the Ambaſſadors of *France* to be

treated after the ſame manner. The Conſtable of *Caſtile* could not be brought to quit his place without ſome trouble; he had ſtill a ſmall diſpute upon the point, which continued a little time between the Ambaſſador and him, however civility was ſtill preſerved on both ſides, and the reſt of the Grandees placed themſelves behind the King. Don *Antonio de Benavidez y Bazan*, Patriarch of the *Indies* and Grand Almoner gave them a ſecond benediction; the Ceremony was performed *incognito* in the Queens Anti-Chamber: If the Arch-Biſhop of *Burgos* had not been indiſpoſed, he had performed this Office. Whilſt Maſs was ſaying, they put a Ribbond of black Taffaty about the King and Queen, tied up in a true Lovers knot, and a white Gauze with a Silver Fringe upon the King's Shoulders, and over the Queens Head. The Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova* held up her Train. When the Ceremony was over, the King and Queen withdrew into a Chamber by themſelves, where they continued two hours alone: they dined afterwards in publick, and parted from thence to go and lie at *Burgos*. There was no body with them in the Coach, and ſince they did underſtand one another but very little, one can ſcarce imagine what they ſaid, however the King appeared very amorous and affectionate; ſeveral Grandees of *Spain* went before their Majeſties with very ſtately Liveries, and accompanied them to the Palace, where a Comedy was acted, and artificial Fireworks were to be ſeen.

The

The next day the King came to a rich Abby of Nuns, that are called *Las Huelgas*, which is not much beyond the Suburbs of *Burgos*: She dined there, and about three a Clock made her entry on Horſeback, being dreſt after the *Spaniſh* mode, but appeared ſo beautiful and charming, that ſhe raviſhed the hearts of all the ſpectators. Three Grandees marched before her, the Marqueſs *d' Aſtorgas* followed her; a Canopy was carried over her head; the Old Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova* rode upon a Mule, and the Maids of Honour accompanied her on Horſeback. On the twenty ſecond of *November* Prince *d' Harcourt* made his entry, and had Audience of the King and Queen; after Dinner there was a Bull-feaſt, which pleaſed the Queen exceedingly, becauſe the Cavaliers ſhowed extraordinary dexterity and courage in the performance. The day following ſhe ſaw the *Parejas*, that is to ſay, an Horſerace, in which nothing is obſerveable, but that two men who ſtart together, ride even without going a ſtep one before the other, altho they ride full ſpeed: Sixty Gentlemen clad in Silver Brocard ran after this manner.

After they had thus ſpent three days in different pleaſures and diverſions, it was high time to think of going to *Madrid*; moſt of the *French* Gentlemen and Ladies that followed the Queen took leave of her in this place, ſo that the greateſt part of the Houſhold went back to *France*; but this was not done without ſhedding abundance of Tears. The Queen had the liberty ſtill to keep with her her two Nurſes, two

Women of the Chamber, ſome *Valets de Chambre*, a Gentleman to look after five or ſix Engliſh Horſes ſhe had ordered to be brought with her, and ſome other Officers for her Table. She preſented the Prince and Princeſs *d' Harcourt*, the Mareſhal *de Clerembaut*'s Lady, and Madam *de Grance* with her Picture enriched with Diamonds of different prices, according to the Quality of the perſons to whom ſhe gave them: and the obliging manner wherewith ſhe knew how to accompany her liberalities augmented the price of them exceedingly. They pretend that the preſent the King made the Prince *d' Harcourt* was worth twenty hundred thouſand Crowns, but it fell much ſhort of it; the Queen got a Penſion of two thouſand Crowns for Madam *de Grance*, which was to be paid her where-ever ſhe lived.

The Princeſs *d' Harcourt*, and the other Ladies that followed the Queen went back to *France*, while ſhe and the King took the way to *Madrid*, being both by themſelves, and ſate in the back part of the Coach. Several Officers of the Houſhold went before, and marched by different Roads to avoid an embarras; the Counts *d' Arcos*, and *de Talara*, Don *Joſeph de Silva*, and the Duke *d' Hijar*, Gentlemen of the Chamber, were named by the King to accompany him in his journey; he came back the very ſame way as he went to *Burgos*; he lay at *Lerma*, at *Aranda*, at St. *Stephen de Gormas*, and at *Guadalajara*: The Nuncio and the *Venetian* Ambaſſador came thither to make their Complements to the Queen: The next day their Majeſties

Majeſties arrived at *Torrejon*, which is within three leagues of *Madrid*.

All the while that the Court was on the way from *Burgos* to this place, the *Camarera Major* frequently diſcourſed the King in private: She found it no difficult matter to inſinuate thoſe ſentiments into him, that are ſo natural to the *Spaniards*, and he had for his ſhare been educated in a Country where they make no reckoning of a Ladies virtue, unleſs they take away from her all opportunities of trangreſſing. 'She 'repreſented to him the ill conſequences of that 'liberty which the women are allowed in *France*; 'that it was abſolutely neceſſary for the Queen 'to live after the retired manner that thoſe of 'her ſex obſerve at *Madrid*; that ſhe was 'young, lively, and of a brillant ſpirit, accu-'ſtomed to the *French* faſhions; that what is in-'nocent in one place may become criminal in 'another; but if he would be pleaſed to confide 'in her, ſhe would by her great diligence pre-'vent every thing. The King commended her zeal, and gave her ſufficient aſſurances of his confidence.

The Queen Mother was arrived at *Torrejon* before the King; ſhe quitted her Apartment to go and meet their Majeſties; when the King ſaw her, he ran to her and embraced her very tenderly; the young Queen advanced forward at the ſame time to kiſs het hand, but the Queen Mother would not ſuffer it: She took her between her Arms, and embraced her ſeveral times with great teſtimonies of friendſhip, treating her ſtill by the name of *Her Ma-*

jeſty; but the young Queen told her, that ſhe requeſted her to call her Daughter, and love her as one, and to be perſwaded that ſhe had all thoſe dutiful ſentiments for her, that might make her worthy of this Honour. The King gave her his hand on one ſide, and the Queen Mother on the other; and thus going between them ſhe entred the Palace, that had been prepared to receive them. The Queen Mother perceiving that the Queen had never a Muff, preſented her with her own, about which was a great knot of Diamonds: afterwards ſhe took from her a Ribbond that tied ſome of her Treſſes, and in exchange put upon her Arm a Bracelet that was computed to be worth three thouſand Piſtols. In a word, ſhe ſhowed the Queen all marks of her good inclinations to her, from which ſhe might promiſe her ſelf all happy conſequences. She ſtaid with their Majeſties as long as ſhe could, but went home that evening, becauſe this place had not conveniencies enough to receive her. The next day which was the ſecond of *December*, the King and Queen arrived at *Madrid*, in a Coach with the Curtains open, that they might be ſeen by the people. They went down to our Ladies *Datocha*, where *Te Deum* was ſung, and at night lay at *Buen-Retiro*; the next day a Comedy was acted, and ſome French Muſitians, that followed the Queen, prepared ſome *Opera's*.

The Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova* being reſolved to take entirely from the Queen that little liberty that remained to her, and deſiring to continue ſole Miſtreſs of her Majeſty's Will, declared when

when ſhe was arrived at *Buen-Retiro*, that no body, of what quality or condition ſoever, ſhould ſee the Queen till after ſhe had made her publick entry. This was a ſorrowful ſtate, and a heavy reſtraint to the young Queen to find her ſelf thus all on a ſudden ſhut up from thoſe perſons, that either might have afforded her ſome conſolation, or diverſion, or uſeful advice. She kept her in this ſolitary condition at *Retiro*, without permitting her ſo much as to go out of her Apartment. All the entertainment they regal'd her with, was to ſee long fulſom tedious Comedies, little of which ſhe underſtood; and the terrible *Camarera* was inceſſantly before her eyes, with a ſevere affected air, and never laught, but was perpetually finding fault with ſomething or other. She was a profeſſed enemy to all manner of pleaſure, and ſhe treated her Miſtreſs with as much Authority, as a Governeſs would uſe towards a little Girl.

The Marqueſs *de Villars* knew all that paſſed, and was mightily concerned at it, but it was not time as yet to ſpeak of it. He ſent to the Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova* to know whether he might have leave to ſalute the Queen, ſhe anſwered him juſt as ſhe did all the reſt of the world, that ſhe was not to be ſeen till after the Entry was over. This anſwer he looked upon to be ſo poſitive, that not deſirous to run the riſque of meeting a ſecond refuſal, he was forced to acquieſce: but the Queen being informed of what had hapned by ſome of the French women that ſtill continued with her, could not forbear to acquaint the King with it, and obtained

tained leave to ſee our Ambaſſador *de ſecreto*, that is to ſay, as a private perſon. She immediately took care to inform him of it; and the Marchioneſs *de Villars* imagining that ſhe might likewiſe have the favour of the ſame priviledge, ſent to the *Camarera Major* to know whether ſhe might be admitted to wait upon the Queen, but ſhe received the ſame anſwer that Monſieur the Ambaſſador had received from her before, ſaying in a few words, ſhe had no order to let her in. The Gentleman that diſcourſed the matter with her, ſtill inſiſted that ſhe had ſomething of moment to ſay to her; 'tis all one, ſays the *Camarera*, I'll never ſuffer any new cuſtoms to be introduced within theſe Walls.

Her Majeſty not knowing what had paſſed between the *Camarera* and the Ambaſſador's Lady, charged her Confeſſor to tell her, that ſhe deſired to ſee her, and that ſhe would extreamly oblige her by making her a viſit. But ſhe was not in a capacity to obey the Orders ſhe had received, and the Confeſſor being informed what obſtacles ſtood in the way, very fairly gave the Queen an account of all. She was not a little troubled at the ill ſervices the Dutcheſs had done her; and one may be able to judge by theſe few inſtances what an abſolute power that old Lady aſſumed in the Queens Houſe, and over the Queens perſon. The Queen Mother, who came every day to *Retiro*, obſerved an air of melancholy in the looks of the young Princeſs, which ſufficiently teſtified her diſquietude within: She eaſily apprehended, that a perſon of her age could not chuſe but be diſguſted at the

the ſeverity of the *Camarera*; ſo ſhe thought her ſelf obliged to acquaint the King with it, and deſired him that he would be pleaſed to treat her after a more gentle method: She ſucceeded in her Petition, and procured leave for the Marchioneſs *de Villars* to go and wait upon the Queen, who was introduced into her Apartment through that of the Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova*, who appeared leſs ſavage and ſomewhat more reſpectful to her than ſhe uſed to be. The King according to the cuſtom of *Spain*, ſate in a Chair of State, the two Queens upon two low Stools, and preſently another was brought for the Ambaſſador's Lady. Soon after the Queen Mother going out along with the King, ſhe found her ſelf alone with the Queen, who ſeeing ſhe was now at liberty to talk, could not forbear to ſhed ſome Tears, as ſhe acquainted her with the ſorrowful life ſhe led. After ſhe ſomewhat eaſed her ſelf by recounting to her the ſeveral ill uſages that ſo much diſturbed her, the Ambaſſador's Lady did not fail to apply thoſe conſolations ſhe judged expedient for one in her condition. 'She made her ſenſible, that 'this life, ſo full of conſtraint as it was, and 'for which ſhe expreſſed ſo great a reluctancy, 'was yet the very ſame that all the Queens and 'Infanta's of *Spain* had ever been accuſtomed 'to; that there was nothing particular in what 'ſhe ſuffered, and conſequently was not deſign-'ed to diſoblige her; that ſhe ought to hope, 'that when the King was better acquainted 'with her, and ſaw he had an entire poſſeſſion 'of her heart, he might out of complaſance al-

'low

'low her ſome relaxations which hitherto her 'Predeceſſors had never enjoyed; That ſince 'the Queen Mother loved her, and cheriſhed 'her intereſts as her own, ſhe could not do too 'much to cultivate that friendſhip, which 'would be ſo advantageous and neceſſary to her; 'that in the diſtribution of humane things, the 'greateſt happineſs is always attended with ſome 'inconveniencies; that ſhe was now elevated 'to the ſupreameſt Grandeur upon Earth, which 'Heaven would have her purchaſe at the ex-'pence of a few mortifications, but that her 'complaiſance to the King and Queen Mother 'would ſoon deliver her out of them. She likewiſe told her ſeveral things, which in the conduct ſhe was to obſerve towards the reſt of the Court, might aſſiſt her to ſupport the beginnings, and render what followed more agreeable to her.

Madam *de Villars* ſpoke with a great deal of zeal of the Queen Mother; but the young Queen being not as yet diſingaged from thoſe ſentiments with which ſhe had been lately poſſeſſed, looked upon all this diſcourſe as deſigned to miſlead her, and tho ſhe ought to have conſidered that the Ambaſſadreſs could have no other views in what ſhe told her, than only to make her ſenſible of her own true intereſts, yet theſe advices did not at that time make thoſe impreſſions upon her, as one could have wiſhed they had for her good. Her prejudices to the Queen Mother, which were perpetually inſpired into her, ballanced the confidence ſhe had in Madam *de Villars*, and her mind, that was only

only accuſtom'd to be entertained with thoſe agreeable things, that uſe to employ perſons of her youth, her temper that was naturally free and lively, diſſipated the application ſhe ought to have made, in order to diſtinguiſh good counſels from bad. She knew juſt enough to embarraſs her and give her occaſions of being uneaſy, but could not tell how to diſintangle herſelf, and for want of a ſteady reſolution to free herſelf from theſe melancholy Ideas, thought it too great a fatigue to ſolve theſe apparent contradictions. So ſhe continued under this uncertainty without being able to reſcue her ſelf from it, and perhaps by this means loſt a favourable juncture that then offer'd it ſelf to deliver her from the Subjection, under which the Dutcheſs kept her afterwards. The Ambaſſador of *France* ſaw her ſometimes whilſt ſhe continued at *Retiro*, but this was before Company, and beſides the time they allotted him to be with her, was ſo ſhort, that in thoſe general viſits they could diſcourſe of no particular affairs.

The Queen Mother continued to viſit the Queen often, ſhe deſired her to dreſs herſelf after the French faſhion, becauſe ſhe never beheld her in that dreſs; ſhe did ſo, and the Queen Mother liked it extremely well. When ſhe was returned to her Palace, which is the Houſe of the Duke *d' Uzeda*, and is one of the fineſt in *Madrid*, the Young Queen ſent her two little Cabinets full of pretty curioſities; ſhe on the other hand procured her by way of exchange the diverſion of going a hunting at *Pardo*. She had not been on Horſeback ſince ſhe came to *Retiro*.

The

The King killed a wild Boar before her, and after that day they went frequently to the Chaſe together.

The Councils of the Inquiſition, of *Caſtile*, of *Italy*, of *Flanders*, of *Arragon*, of the *Indies*, of War, of the *Finances*, of the Cruſade, and of the Orders, went on New years day to wiſh a happy year to their Majeſties; for this is the Cuſtom in *Spain*.

The Marqueſs *Sera* a Genoeſe, offer'd to make the *Naples* Squadron conſiſt of fourteen Gallies, which was never more than ſeven, and not put the King to any expence, provided he would allow him the ſame conditions that the Duke *de Turſis* had at *Genoa*. He had made this propoſal to Don *Juan*, ſome time before his death, who found it to be very advantageous. However their reſolutions are ſo long a taking in *Spain*, and they have ſo ſmall a conſideration for Novelties, of whatſoever uſe they may prove, that it is almoſt impoſſible to introduce one; and this affair it ſeems met with the ſame fortune.

The Marqueſs *de los Balbazez* took the Oath of fidelity for his place of Counſellor of State, and Don *Manuel de Lira* did the ſame, for that of Secretary of State in *Italy*. The Duke *d' Oſſone* ſtill expected that they would accommodate the diſpute between him and the Marqueſs *d' Aſtorgas*, bnt ſeeing that they ſaid nothing to him about it, he took up a reſolution to go no more to Court, and appeared every day in the City with a great equipage. This is often enough practiſed in *Spain*.

There

There are ſome people in the world that are never to be diſcountenanc'd by a repulſe, and Father *Vintimiglia* was of this number: Altho he had received no manner of anſwer to the memorial he gave the Pr. *d' Harcourt* at *Bayonna* to preſent to the Queen, yet he could not forbear to draw up a ſecond, wherein he regulated all the Monarchy; he intruſted a French Gentleman with it, who promiſed to find out ſome means or other to give the Queen a ſight of it: But whether he ſhow'd it her, or not, 'tis certain that *Vintimiglia* by an expreſs order of the King was baniſhed out of all his Dominions. He betook himſelf to the Ambaſſador of *France*, and nothing more became of the matter.

'Twas expected that immediately after the King's return ſome ſort of Government would be eſtabliſhed to ſettle affairs in their old courſe, which had been intirely ſuſpended ever ſince the Death of Don *Juan*. Juſt as his Death happened, every thing was making ready for the Journey, which employ'd all the Court, and the King in particular; his Marriage might well enough detain him ſome time from making thoſe applications he ought to uſe in the choice of an able Miniſter: And the world was not at all ſurprized, to find him forget the concerns of the kingdom in general, at a time when he was wholly poſſeſs'd with a Paſſion for his Queen; and had his head full of thoſe agreeable Ideas, which all Lovers amuſe themſelves with. But now when that buſineſs was over, they impatiently expected to ſee him take up ſome fixed Reſolutions. The Queen Mother who was newly

newly returned from her Exile thought of nothing elſe than how to preſerve her ſelf in the favourable Scituation ſhe was in at preſent, and no body in a manner was ſo intereſted with the King as to be able to pretend to the Miniſtry. Thus the whole government was lodged in the hands of a Monarch, who was but 17 years old, and who was never ſo well verſed in things of leſſer conſequence as to have any juſt knowledge in greater Affairs.

The only man that ſhared the Monarchy with him, was Don *Jeronimo d' Eguya*, who had been Secretary of State 4 years, to which poſt he arrived from that of a ſimple Commiſſary. His addreſs together with his good fortune render'd him agreeable to the King, who had followed no other Counſel than his, unleſs *d' Eguya* who was fearful of giving it ſometimes, had not adviſed him to conſult the Conſtable of *Caſtile*, and the Duke *de Medina-Celi* in certain affairs, becauſe he had no mind to anſwer for every thing himſelf. It is indeed true, that during the Journey nothing of importance was debated upon, for they only buſied themſelves about that in particular, and the orders that are neceſſary to be given upon ſuch occaſions.

The Court became now very full; the Kings marriage and the return of the Q. Mother had brought together the moſt conſiderable perſons of the Kingdom. Every Family was conſulting about the meaſures that were to advance ſome particular man amongſt them to the Chief Miniſtry: Some wiſhed their Relations had it, others deſired it for their Friends, and abundance

of

of people wiſhed to enjoy it themſelves: Among thoſe that had the juſteſt pretenſions were reckoned the Conſtable of *Caſtile*, and the Duke *de Medina Celi*: They were both of them furniſhed with great perſonal qualities, were both of an illuſtrious birth, and conſiderable fortune; they poſſeſſed the chief Offices of the Crown, were Counſellors of State, and their merits equally diſtinguiſhed them: But nothing was more oppoſite than theſe two Lords were to one another: an old Spirit of hatred, which they were not able to ſuppreſs, and which they had teſtified in a thouſand Rencounters, increaſed their common emulation; their humors and inclinations were as contrary as night is to day. Several of their common Friends had endeavoured to reconcile them, but their pains were to no purpoſe: They were all ſenſible that if they concerted matters together, they would reciprocally render good Offices to one another, which might ſerve to advance their Fortune. This was one of the reaſons they uſed to accomodate the matter between them; but ſometimes we meet with averſions that are never to be ſurmounted, and this I have mentioned was of that number.

The Duke *de Medina-Celi* was 45 years old, his Humour ſweet and good natur'd, but too ſlow and careleſs in matters of moment, of an inſinuating agreeable Spirit. He was deſcended of the illuſtrious Houſes of *Caſtile* and *de Foix*: he is ſeven times a Grandee of *Spain*. His Wife was Heireſs of the Houſe of *Arragon de Cardonne*, ſhe is very rich on her ſide, as well as he is on

his. He was Preſident of the Council of the *Indies*, *Sommellor du Corps*, that is to ſay, High Chamberlain, he made his Court regularly, and always teſtified a particular zeal for the perſon of the King; and his Majeſty as he never fails upon that point, expreſſed a certain affection for him, which he never ſhow'd to any one beſides. This made the world believe, that he ſtood fairer for the Miniſtry than all his Competitors.

The Conſtable of *Caſtile*, deſcended of the Houſe *de Veliſco*, was 57 years old, and was Maſter of a conſiderable eſtate, nevertheleſs he did not live eaſy amidſt all his wealth; he is the tenth Hereditary Conſtable of *Caſtile*, Dean of the Council of State, and Grand Maſter of the King's Houſhold. His Genius is vaſt, his Abilities and Knowledge are ſurprizing, and he was always concern'd in employments, where he acquired experience. The laſt of his Governments was that of *Flanders*, and altho theſe poſts ought to have made him ſociable and familiar, yet he always preſerved ſo ſevere and rigid a character, that it rendred him terrible: acceſs to him is very difficult, and his humour is naturally ſo imperious, that he can never ſubmit. And this is the reaſon why he was embroiled ſo deeply with Don *Juan*, and hindered him from receiving ſeveral favours, which that Prince would otherwiſe have willingly beſtowed upon him, to have brought him over to his own Party. 'Tis true he declared himſelf very violently for the Queen Mother, and this might be one of the principal cauſes, that

that kept him from being of Don *Juan*'s Faction. No body doubted but that the King reſpected him very much, for what the Queen Mother might ſay in favour of him, and the world was perſwaded, that among thoſe perſons, whoſe merits ſhe would recommend to the King, the Conſtable would be the firſt, who beſides this would unqueſtionably find himſelf ſupported by all the party that had been ill treated by Don *Juan*, and by all thoſe that continued ſtill in the Intereſts of the Queen Mother: She was obliged for her own proper Intereſts to procure the King's favour, and the Favourite's place for the Conſtable. But amidſt all theſe flattering appearances, he ſeemed to be very indifferent in the matter, whether it were becauſe the ill poſture of affairs, and the tender Age of the King, made him apprehend ſome danger to be in the chief poſt, or becauſe he was ſenſible that he had not a proſpect of obtaining it at one ſtep, and ſo was willing to aſcend it by degrees. He ſeem'd to deſire that a Junto were eſtabliſhed for the Government, wherein he wou'd bear his ſhare with the Inquiſitor General and the Marqueſs *de Manſera*. He ſometimes told his Friends that the weight of great affairs aſtoniſhed him, and that he found it a harder matter to adjuſt them, than thoſe perſons who behold them only at a diſtance, can well imagine; and that all his ambition was to contribute what in him lay to the erecting a Junto.

The Queen Mother was not unwilling to have this project take effect; becauſe this was the way to keep the entire Authority in her own

hands; for the Council being compoſed of her creatures, they would in all probability act according to her directions. The Conſtable for his part ſecretly promiſed, that by his conduct and management he would always keep the upper hand over the other two, and that thus his Companions would only enable him to bear the publick hatred, in caſe any thing ſhould meet with ill ſucceſs.

But this Junto, that would lodge all the authority in the hands of three perſons only, deſtroyed at the ſame time the expectations of all thoſe that would have it be divided amongſt more, out of a conſideration of their own intereſt: This party deſired to have it full as numerous as it was during the Regency, and would have it compoſed of the Cardinal *Portocarero* Archbiſhop of *Toledo*, of Don *Melchior Navarra*, who had been formerly Vice-Chancellor of *Arragon*, of the Duke *de Medina Celi*, and the other three whom I have mentioned.

After ſo many different projects, People were ſo well ſatisfied that the Council at laſt would be only compoſed of the Queen Mothers Creatures, that the alarm became general to thoſe perſons who had been devoted to Don *Juan*, and were very apprehenſive of the credit of the Queen Mother and the advancement of the Conſtable: Several of them aſſembled hereupon, they beheld their ruine in the elevation of the contrary party, and united themſelves to the D. *de Medina Celi*, to find protection from him, out of hopes of beholding him made Chief Miniſter: They conſidered that it would be more advan-

tageous to them to ſee one man made happy, who was ſure to befriend them, than to ſee three happy perſons depending upon one alone, who had juſt reaſons to wiſh them ill.

The Duke *de Medina Celi* was of an equal and peaceable temper, which rendred him agreeable to the King. This good fortune, which ſeem'd particular to himſelf, made him be looked upon by the greater part of the Courtiers as the only man that ought to pretend to this favour, in a Court where the greatneſs of rank and birth is one of the moſt eſſential qualities to recommend a Chief Miniſter. Thoſe that penetrated into the true diſpoſition of the King, ſaw very well that in the midſt of theſe different parties, the Duke could not fail to get the better; but whether it was an effect of his Prudence and Moderation, or whether it was occaſioned by the Intrigues of thoſe perſons that were on the contrary ſide, he advanced but ſlowly. It appears probable, that the greateſt part of his Ambition came from his Friends, and that he rather followed the advices they inſpired into him, than his own proper inclinations. 'I deſire the ſame thing that you do, 'would he ſay to them, but in truth the tran-'quillity a man abandons to expoſe himſelf to all 'the murmurs of the people, and to all publick 'inquietudes, very much moderates the pleaſure 'that is inſeparable from ſo great a Poſt: and 'unleſs it were for the ſervice we hereby render 'to our Maſter, I can't imagine how any man 'could find any ſatisfaction in a thing that draws 'ſo many hazards along with it.

Thus people buſied themſelves about the two different factions, that were formed by the Conſtable, ſupported by the Queen Mother, and by the Duke *de Medina-Celi*, who was ſeconded by all the Creatures of Don *Juan*: But while theſe Rivals were openly diſputing the prize, and all the Court ſeemed divided between them, every one embracing a party according to his own inclinations, *Don Jeronimo d' Eguya* formed a third almoſt alone. He ſaw himſelf all on the ſudden made Secretary of State, when the Marquis *de Valenzuela*, after the removal of F. *Nitard*, became the Queen Mother's Favourite and took away that Office from Don *Pedro Fernandez del Campo*, who did not behave himſelf ſupple and ſubmiſſive enough to him, ſo that we may ſay his Haughtineſs was the occaſion of his Fall, *Valenzuela* having no reaſon to be content with him, obliged him to quit his Office, and beſtowed it upon *d' Eguya*.

He had too freſh an example before his eyes to fall into the ſame fault, and being very adroit, complaiſant, and well enough verſed in diſſimulation, neglected nothing to pleaſe *Valenzuela* as long as he ſtood upon his Feet: but when he ſaw his Fortune declining, and that the Court declared in favour of Don *Juan*, he preſently copied after them, and preſerved himſelf, during that Miniſtry, by his exemplary Submiſſion. He was one of the firſt that eſpouſed his party, and was likewiſe one of the firſt that abandon'd the Prince, when he ſaw his credit began to ſink in the world. Nay ſome time before the end of Don *Juan*, he managed himſelf

as he had done before *Valenzuela*'s fall, he entred into a correſpondence with the Queen Mother, aſſuring her that he would only depend upon her, ſo whether ſhe was really perſwaded of his ſincerity, or had not as yet a fit occaſion to remove him from his Poſt, ſhe ſuffered him to continue in it without the leaſt moleſtation.

In all theſe Changes he only held his place by a Commiſſion, but as this furniſhed him with an occaſion to ſee the King perpetually, and to diſcourſe him in private about all affairs, ſo he made uſe of this opportunity to poſſeſs him with a diſtruſt of all thoſe, that might with juſtice make pretenſions to his favour, nay even of the moſt conſiderable perſons: So that being only a ſimple Secretary of State by a Commiſſion, and in all appearance of a narrow unexperienced Genius, he beheld himſelf in a capacity to ballance at one time two powerful parties, ſo that neither one nor the other could ſucceed in their affairs, ſo long as he oppoſed them.

Whatſoever Inclinations the King had for the Duke *de Medina Celi*, Don *Jeronimo* fruſtrated them, by awakening him with an Idea of Don *Juan*'s Miniſtry, 'The Slavery he then 'ſuffered, the Perſecution of the Queen Mother, 'ſo many Perſons of quality ill uſed without any 'occaſion, the Miſery of the People, and many 'other diſorders that inevitably happen, when 'the Government is abandoned to the Caprice 'of one man: On the other hand he repreſented 'a Junto to him, as a Company of Miniſters 'that would command every body, and everlaſt-'ingly embarras their own affairs by their Jealou-

'ſies and mutual Diſcords; that it would be a 'burthen to himſelf, as well as unprofitable to 'the State; that Junto's might do ſome good un-'der a Minority, but that his Majeſty was too 'far advanced in Age, to want any Governors; 'that ſuppoſe he were pleaſed to compoſe one, 'yet the obligation he had to make the Conſta-'ble one of the number, would involve him in 'new difficulties; that his temper was haughty and 'imperious in Authority, and that he was wholly 'devoted to the Queen Mother; that ſhe had 'been accuſtomed to govern, and would eaſily 'come to be Miſtreſs again, by the help of a 'Junto compoſed of her own Creatures; that 'ſince he was married, and had Prudence and 'Wit ſufficient, he ought to manage himſelf, 'and that if ever he was prevailed upon to do 'otherwiſe, he would find himſelf by little and 'little reduc'd to thoſe ſufferings, from which he 'deſir'd to free him.

It is natural for a Young King to deſire to be at large, and independent; ſo whilſt he continued thus in ſuſpence, *Eguya* was Maſter of all affairs: The Confeſſor poſſeſſed the King with the ſame ſentiments to chuſe no Chief Miniſter, upon whom he muſt depend: And the Dutcheſs *de Terra nova* found herſelf equally concerned to keep off the Queen Mother, a Junto, and a Favourite. During this Interregnum, ſhe had opportunity enough to fix and ſettle herſelf in the King's good opinion, ſhe did not queſtion but if the Q. Mother hapned to be once more Miſtreſs, ſhe would endeavour either by herſelf or by her Creatures to turn her out of the Court; this

this conſideration obliged her to diſcourſe frequently with the King, and her only care was to perſwade him, that he ought to be apprehenſive of the Queen Mothers deſigns. She likewiſe inſpired him with the ſame diſtruſt of the Queen, whoſe Youth and Eaſineſs of Temper made her uncapable of taking ſtrict meaſures: She conſtantly whiſpered ſome diſagreeable things or other into his Ear, that only tended to diſquiet him; but he preſerved ſo great a Love for his Queen, that notwithſtanding he believed all the Stories this old Beldam told him, he never had the leſs affection and tenderneſs for her.

The Court continued ſtill at *Buen-Retiro*, that is to ſay without *Madrid*, expecting the Queen to make her Entry, after which they were to go and lodge in the Palace; the preparations for her Entry were very long, it was commonly believed for ſome time that the Queen was with Child, but all theſe hopes vaniſhing about the beginning of *January* 1680, She made her Entry on the 13th. of the ſame Month; The Queen Mother went in the morning to *Buen-Retiro*, from whence ſhe parted ſome time after along with the King, they went together to ſee all the ſtreets through which the Queen was to paſs, and ſtayed at the Counteſs *Dognates* in a Balcony made on purpoſe, and having a Lattice-Window gilt all over, the Avenues that led to *Retiro* were all ſhut up, and a prohibition was iſſued out for any Coach to go that way. About eleven the Queen mounted on Horſeback, thoſe that were to go before began to march, and paſſed through a marble Gate, which was but lately built: The

Kettle

Kettle Drums and the Trumpets of the City, in their Habits uſed in theſe Ceremonies, marched at the head of all; after them the Alcaldes of the Court, the Nobility, the Knights of the three Military Orders, the Gentlemen of the King's houſe, the Mayor domo's to the Queen, and the Grandees of *Spain*, followed by a great number of Lacquays, whoſe different Liveries of Brocard, and Gallon of Gold and Silver of a mixt colour, made an agreeable diverſity; the Querries of the Queen marched on foot immediately before her: the Count *de Villa Mayana* was on her Right hand, who was her Chief Gentleman Uſher: She was ſurrounded with her Menins and Pages of Honour (when ſhe walks on foot ſhe always leans upon one of them) the Dutcheſs *de Terra nova* followed her, and Donna *Laura de Alargon* Governante of the Maids of Honour, both of them mounted upon their Mules, and in their Widdows habit; which ſomewhat reſembles that of Religious Women, except that when they are on Horſeback, they wear great Hats on their Heads, which made no leſs terrible a figure than the reſt of their garb. But People ſaw after this with a great deal of pleaſure Donna *Tereſa de Toledo*, Donna *Franciſca Henriquez*, Donna *Maria de Guſman*, *Joſepha de Figueroa*, and Donna *Manuela de Velaſco*, Maids of Honour to the Queen, all very beautiful and richly dreſt; they were on Horſeback, each of them was accompanied by their Relations, in the midſt of whom they marched: There were ſeveral led Horſes admirably fine, led by Grooms clad in rich Liveries, and the paſſage was ſhut up

up by the *Guards de la Lancilla*. At the *Prado*, which is one of the moſt agreeeble walks in *Madrid*, by reaſon of the ſeveral Fountains that water it continually, was to be ſeen a Gallery open on every ſide with one and twenty Arches, there were ſeveral jettings out in it, on which the Armes of the ſeveral Kingdoms under the Dominion of *Spain* were affixed to Pillars that ſupported ſome gilt Statues, which carried Devices in honour of the Queen, with Crowns and Inſcriptions that had a relation to the ſeveral Kingdoms; The Queen found at the end of the Gallery a Triumphal Arch, very magnificent and well deſign'd, through which ſhe entred into the City. The Corrigidor and the Rigidors apparelled in Brocard of Gold, of a red Crimſon colour, with Bonnets and Breeches, ſuch as the antient *Caſtilians* wore, preſented her with the Keys of the City, and with a Canopy which they carried over her head, during the proceſſion: The Streets were adorned with the richeſt Tapeſtries, and the precious Stones that were to be ſeen in the Goldſmiths Row were valued at Eleven Millions. It would take up too much time to deſcribe all the magnificences of that day, I ſhall only content my ſelf to ſay, that the Queen was mounted upon a fine *Andaluzian* Horſe, which in this noble march ſeemed proud to carry ſo beautiful and great a Princeſs. Her Habit was ſo covered with Embroidery that the Stuff was not to be ſeen; ſhe wore on her Hat white Plumes mixt with red, and a Pearl called there the *Peregrina*, which is as big as a ſmall Catherine Pear, and is of an ineſtimable value, hung

hung below a Claſp of Diamonds with which her Hat was beſet. She wore on her finger the great Diamond of the King, which, as they pretend, ſurpaſſes in beauty any thing of that nature that was ever ſet in a Ring. But the graceful deportment of the Queen in all her actions, and particularly in the management of her Horſe, and the charms of her perſon made a greater luſtre than all the pretious Stones ſhe wore, altho it is certain that people could ſcarce behold the glittering of them. She made an halt before the Balcony of the Counteſs *Dognate* to ſalute the King, and Queen Mother; they opened the Lattice about 4 broad fingers to ſee her, and the K. taking his Handerchief in his hand, carried it ſeveral times to his Mouth, his Eyes and his Heart, which is the greateſt piece of Gallantry in *Spain*. She went on in her Proceſſion, and the King with the Queen Mother received her in the Court of the Pallace, he helped her to light off her Horſe, and the other taking her by the hand conducted her to her Apartment, where ſhe embraced her often, telling her that ſhe was over happy to have ſo amiable a Daughter in Law. That Evening there were curious Fireworks, and Illuminations for three nights together; the King next day went to the Royal Chappel, where the Queen was likewiſe in her Chair of State, the Ambaſſadors and Grandees were there according to the Cuſtom, and *Te Deum* was ſung. After dinner the King and Queen went out together, which was the firſt time of their appearing in publick: They were in a Chariot made like a Triumphal Coach

Coach without a Crown upon it, and open on all ſides to ſhew themſelves to the People, they traverſed the great Square before the Palace, and paſſed through ſeveral Streets, where the Balconies were full of Ladies, who mingled their Acclamations with thoſe of the people; the Grandees followed their Majeſties in very rich Coaches, with a great number of Livery men. There were abundance of theſe Lords who for nine days together had nine different Liveries, and each finer than the other; after this manner they went to our Ladies *Datcha*, and it being already night before they returned to the Palace, white wax Tapers were lighted at all the Windows, and the Streets were ſo prettily illuminated, by them, that a man might almoſt ſee from one end of the City to the other. The fineſt ſhow of theſe Lights was at the *Placa Mayor*, which is a very large noble Square, the Houſes are built with five Rows of Balconies one over another, and could reckon above three Thouſand Tapers in all. As ſoon as the King and Queen were arrived there, the Fireworks began. Many other diverſions laſted for ſeveral days; ſometimes their Majeſties went a hunting, at other times to a Comedy, or took a Walk: Sometimes they went to Sup with the Queen Mother, or the Queen Mother came to eat with them at the Palace. All the Ladies had the Honour to kiſs the Queen's Hand, the Councils and the Grandees complemented her alſo.

Some

Some days after her Entry a Bull-feaſt was kept at *Madrid*, which was the moſt magnificent of the kind that had been ſeen for a long time. The King and the Queen came to the Great Square about one a Clock in the Afternoon: aftewards entred the Duke *de Medina Sidonia*, the Marqueſs *Camaraza* Grandees of *Spain*, Don *Felix de Cordova*, Second Son of the Duke *de Seſſa*, Don *Franciſco Moſcoſo*, and Don *Fernando de Lea*, a Gentleman of *Cordova*, each of them followed by an hundred Lacqueys, ſome dreſſed after the *Turkiſh*, others after the *Gracian* faſhion; and after this manner they repreſented ſeveral Nations. They combated the Bulls with extraordinary dexterity and courage; the Son of the Duke *de Seſſa* had two Horſes killed under him. This ſport is an old remainder of the Moors, whoſe Genius and Cuſtoms are not intirely extinguiſhed in *Spain*, altho they themſelves have been long turned out of it. The *Spaniards* ſtill ſeem to preſerve ſomething of the barbarity of theſe people, ſince they do ſo freely expoſe themſelves the rage of Mad Bulls to divert the Publick. But to ſay the truth, this repreſentation is one of the fineſt things in the world, and nothing can afford ſo agreeable a proſpect, as the place of the Combat, which is prodigiouſly ſpacious, encompaſſed with five ranks of Balconies all equal and regular, and curiouſly ſet out with rich hangings and Furniture, as well as filled with almoſt an infinite number of Spectators.

The King on the eighteenth of *January* named the Marqueſs *d' Oſſera* to go Vice-Roy *per interim*

rim of *Sardinia*, becauſe the Count *d' Egmon* was not as yet in a condition to go thither: He named the ſame day the Marqueſs *de Fuentes*, Son to him who had been Ambaſſador in *France*, to go thither in that quality in the room of the Duke *de Giovenazzo*, who from an Envoy to the Court of *Savoy*, was nominated to that of *France*, but it ſeems was at laſt deſtined to return to *Turin*.

In the mean time the Marqueſs *de Villa Mayna*, Chief Gentleman Uſher to the Queen diſcharged the Office of Maſter of the Horſe, in the place of the Duke *d' Oſſone*, who for his ill conduct was prohibited to come to the Palace. The Marqueſs *d' Aſtorgas* took the advantage of his abſence to make his own Court, and altho he had been indiſpoſed, and continued to be ſo ſtill, yet he went every day with five Coaches of extraordinary fineneſs, and a numerous retinue of Livery-men to wait upon the King. The Duke *d' Oſſone* being informed of it reſolved to meet him, and give him ſome affront, ſo he took abundance of people with him, and knowing which way the Marqueſs was to paſs, he ordered his Coachman to drive thither full ſpeed, and to overturn the Marqueſs's Coach, in caſe he was within: It happened he went that day in a Chair, and his Coaches followed him, but the Duke *d' Oſſone*'s Coachman for all that met with him ſo conveniently, that he threw him along in the River: This rencounter made a great noiſe, and did not at all accommodate the affairs of the Duke, which before this were in no good condition.

Madam,

Madam, the Conſtable *Colonna*'s Lady, who went out of the Convent, where ſhe ſojourned, to behold the Queens Entry, ſtaid with the Marchioneſs *de los Balbazez* till the fifth of *February*, when ſhe was carried away by the King's Order to a Convent ſome leagues off *Madrid*.

'Tis the Cuſtom of *Spain*, that upon all ſolemn occaſions, whether of Joy or Grief, all the Kingdoms and all the Principalities that depend upon the King, ſend their Deputies to complement him. Thus Don *Pedro de Salinas y Unda* came in the name of the Principality of *d' Avila*, accompanied with the Duke *de Paſtrane*, and Don *Joſeph de Silva* his Brother, to kiſs the King's hand, and complement him upon the ſcore of his marriage. The Kingdoms of *Naples*, *Navar*, *Arragon*, *Granada*, and divers other places ſent likewiſe. After the King had given them Audience, he took the Queen along with him to a great hunting of the Wild Boar, where they killed abundance of them. The Duke *de Paſtrane*, who exerciſed the Office of Chief Ranger in the abſence of the Marqueſs *de Liche*, conducted the Queen to a place in the Forreſt, that was extreamly pleaſant. Several ſtreams of water ran by the place, and under ſome of the higheſt Trees a Pavilion of Gold Brocard adorned with a Fringe of the ſame, was ſet up. All the Trees were covered with little Apes, Squirrels and Parrots, and a thouſand other Birds that were faſtned to them; young Boys that were dreſt like Fauns and Silvanes, and Girls apparelled like Nymphs and Driades, and Shepherdeſſes

herdeſſes ſerved up a noble Collation to her Majeſty, who ſeemed to be at firſt extreamly pleaſed with the entertainment. But altho no body knew what it was that diſquieted her afterwards, ſhe appear to be very ſad all the remainder of the day.

On *Candlemas day* there was a proceſſion in the Galleries of the Palace; the Religious of the *Mendicant Orders*, and all the Eccleſiaſticks belonging to the Chappel walked before the Pages of the King, and thoſe of the Queen followed after. The Grandees of *Spain* marched before their Majeſties, the Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova* held up the Queens Train, the Maids of Honour came next, and there did not ſeem to be above eighteen or twenty of them: 'Tis not here as in other Holidays where they all wait upon their Soveraign.

Tho the young Queen changed her place of abode, yet ſhe did not change that ſolitary and diſagreeable life ſhe led at *Buen Retiro*, under the guard of the Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova*. She governed her like a Child, and continued ſtill to treat her after a worſe manner, unleſs it were that ſhe was permitted to receive the viſits of ſome Ladies, which oftentimes appeared more tedious to her than even ſolitude it ſelf; not that they wanted wit, for no body can reproach them with want of that: But the Queen underſtood but a little of what they ſaid, and beſides could not repoſe that confidence in them, which gives liberty, and life, and ſpirit to Converſation; all was Grandeur, and Ceremony, and Reverence, and State. Much about this time I had the honour to kiſs her hand, but

ſhe could not forbear ſmiling, to ſee me ſo much altered for the worſe by my *Spaniſh* Garb, for unleſs her ſelf alone, I never ſaw a Stranger look well in that Habit. After I had paſſed through her Apartments, which to ſay the truth, were exceeding pretty, I found her in her Cloſet, which was painted and gilded, and ſet out with great Looking Glaſſes faſtned to the ceiling; ſhe ſate upon a little ſquare Stool near the Window, making Gold Net Work, mingled with Blew Silk; her Hair was parted in the middle of her Head, which was bare, only one knot of her Hair was curled and plaited with great Pearls, and reached down to her Waſte; ſhe had a Velvet Robe on, of a Roſe Colour, Embroidered with Silver, and had Pendants in her Ears that touched her very Breaſt, and ſo heavy that ſhe gave her ſelf the trouble to take out one of them that I might paſs my judgment on it, and I was exceedingly ſurprized at it. She ſpoke very little *French* to me, affecting to talk *Spaniſh* before the *Camarera Major*. She ordered me to ſend her all the Letters I received from *France* which had any news in them, to which I replied, that the news which was ſent to me did not deſerve the conſideration of ſo great a Queen. Ah good God, cryed ſhe, lifting up her Eyes with a charming air, I ſhall never think meanly of any thing that comes out of a Country, which is ſo dear to me. This affection, ſaid I to her, which your Majeſty preſerves for your own Native Country, makes me hope every thing, Madam, ſince as I have the happineſs to be one, ſo I have all the inclinations of a good

French

French Woman. She anſwered this with her uſual goodneſs, and whiſpered me in *French*, that ſhe would rather ſee me apparalled after the *French* faſhion than that of *Spain*. But, Madam, ſaid I to her, 'tis a ſacrifice which I have made to the reſpect I have for your Majeſty. Say rather, continued ſhe with a ſmiling air, that the rigid temper of the Dutcheſs has frightned you. She appeared to me ſo very charming that day, that I could not forbear to admire her, for in ſpight of her melancholy ſhe was plump and and in good liking, and that contributed to make her ſtill more beautiful and agreeable.

When I came back to my lodgings, I found my Letters from *France* were arrived; there was one amongſt the reſt, which I ſuppoſed would pleaſe the Queen, ſo I made all the haſte I could the next morning to carry it to her, but the *Camarera* would not ſuffer me to have the honour of ſeeing the Queen two days together, therefore I was contented to write to the Dutcheſs, deſiring her to preſent that Letter to the Queen. Behold the Contents of it.

I *Am of opinion, Madam, that I cannot ſend you better news to day, than that of the marriage of* Mademoiſelle de Blois *with Monſieur the Prince* de Conty. *The Contract of the Marriage was ſigned on the fifteenth of this month in the King's Chamber, who went about ſeven a Clock at Night to the Queens Apartment, and afterwards returned to his own with all the Royal Family: The Prince* de Conty *led* Mademoiſelle de Blois; *ſhe was ſet out with the fineſt Jewels in the world, all which*

together did not glitter ſo brightly as her Eyes, and whoſe luſtre was inferiour to the Lillies and Roſes of her Complexion. All the Court was in a tranſport as ſoon as ſhe appeared, and the majeſty of her ſtature was not a little increaſed by a Train five Ells long, which Mademoiſelle de Nante carried. The King drew near to a Table that ſtood againſt the Wall; the Queen was on his left hand, and next after Monſeigneur, Monſieur, Madam, Mademoiſelle d' Orleans, Madam the Dutcheſs of Tuſcany, Madam de Guiſe, Monſieur the Prince, and Monſieur the Duke, and Madam the Dutcheſs, the Prince de la Roche ſur yon, Mademoiſelle de Bourbon, the Princeſs de Carignan, the Count de Vermandois, the Count du Maine, Mademoiſelle de Nante, and Mademoiſelle de Tours, all placed in a Demicircle about the Table. The Prince de Conty, and Mademoiſelle de Blois came one after the other within the Demicircle over againſt the Table. The Marqueſs de Seignelay drew near to the King, and read the beginning of the Contract with a loud voice, but he had ſcarce read the qualifications, when the King told him 'twas enough, and ſo ſigned the Contract. After all the Royal Family had ſigned it the Cardinal de Bouillon entred, and advanced forward to the middle of the Chamber; then the Prince de Conty and Mademoiſelle de Blois approached up to him, and performed the Ceremony of the Betrothing. The Princeſs's Name, as you know, is Anna Maria, and the Prince's Louis Armand: This Ceremony being over, the King and all the Court went to ſee an Opera. Next day the Cardinal de Bouillon married this young Prince and beautiful Princeſs in the Chappel of the Old Caſtle in the preſence of the King,

King, the Queen, and all the Court: the King dined with all the Royal Family: at night a Comedy was acted, and after that there was a great Supper, where, without reckoning the Princes and Princeſſes of the Blood, there were fifty Ladies that ſate at one Table. which was ſerved with three ſervices of two hundred diſhes each. The Cardinal Bouillon *bleſſed the Bed, the King gave the Shift t· the Prince of* Conty, *and the Queen to the Princeſs. Next morning their Majeſties went to ſee her at her Apartment in the New Caſtle. The King has given her the Dutchy* de Vaujour, *a Million of mony in hand, a Penſion of a hundred thouſand Livers, and abundance of Jewels; to the Prince* de Conty *fifty thouſand Crowns in hand, and a Penſion of twenty thouſand to the Prince* de la Roche Sur-Yon.

From St. *Germains* the 18th of *Jan.* 1680.

The Queen Mother had given all imaginable aſſiſtance to the Queen of *Spain*, to deliver her from part of her troubles, if ſhe could have cured her ſelf of thoſe ſuſpicions with which ſome people had poſſeſt her againſt her; but ſhe unhappily imagining, that the other ſtill regretted the Arch-Dutcheſs, and would have been glad to ſee her in her place, that opinion made her extreamly diſtruſtful: and the Queen Mother who found nothing of that openneſs of heart and freedom as ſhe deſired, was likewiſe troubled for her part: for in effect, ſhe loved her tenderly, and was ready to give her all poſſible teſtimonies of her affection.

The Ambaſſador of *France*, his Lady, and the Confeſſor often reminded the Queen of that conduct ſhe was to obſerve, if ſhe intended to be happy. 'They told her, that ſhe ought 'to give her ſelf intirely up to the Queen her 'Mother in Law out of a principle of Duty, and 'Gratitude for the friendſhip ſhe ſhowed her, 'as out of a conſideration of her own proper 'intereſts: they repreſented to her, that the 'Queen Mother ought not to be ſuſpected by 'her, and that altho the Arch Dutcheſs was her 'Grand Daughter, yet ſhe had received ſuch 'few tokens and aſſurances of friendſhip from 'the Emperour during her diſgrace, that ſhe was 'too ſenſible ever to forget it: that the Con-'duct of *France* towards her was directly oppoſite 'to this, that there ſhe had been pitied and obli-'ged, that her Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty had ever 'preſerved a ſtrict correſpondence and friend-'ſhip with her, and that the Queen Mother 'knew well enough that ſhe could not by any 'returns oblige the Queen of *France* more, than 'by ſhowing back all that kindneſs to the young 'Queen of *Spain*; that ſhe had all the agree-'ments in her, which could engage her heart; 'that beſides this ſhe hoped to ſee her give an 'Heir to the Crown; that this was neceſſary 'for the good of *Spain*; that the melancholy 'humour, to which ſhe abandoned her ſelf, 'might hinder her from having one; that they 'ought to concert all their affairs together, in 'order to poſſeſs the good graces and inclinati-'ons of the King; that it was natural to be-'lieve, he would divide his power between his

'Mother

'Mother and his Queen, rather than beſtow it 'upon a Favourite, who would think of ſerving 'him no longer, than his Family reaped advan-'tage by it; whereas the Souls of Soveraigns, 'having ſomething in them that was more noble 'and great, than thoſe of private perſons, the 'motives of intereſt would never be ſuppo-'ſed to influence two Queens, ſo much as they 'would a Chief Miniſter; that in fine there 'ought to be no ſeparation between them, but 'that they muſt begin with the union of their 'hearts.

The Queen reliſhed theſe reaſons, and found them plauſible enough, but for all that ſhe relapſed all on a ſudden into her old diſtruſt, into which the different things that had been ſaid to her, did caſt her anew: Beſides the extream trouble ſhe ſuffered from the rigid conduct of the Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova*; ſhe found her ſo abſolute and inflexible that ſhe began to fear her, to which the tenderneſs of her youth, her want of experience, and her natural ſweetneſs contributed not a little, ſo that ſhe could not open her ſelf to the Queen Mother, when ſhe conſidered, that if ſhe did not really love her, but would make invidious reflexions upon what ſhe ſaid, this would be the way to throw her into new inconveniencies; ſo that notwithſtanding the deſire ſhe had to ſpeak to her, ſhe was always ſilent in her company. The Queen Mother perceived it well enough, yet for all that ſhe continued to viſit her almoſt every day, and ſent her preſents from time to time.

At laſt the young Queen being entirely vanquiſhed by all theſe demonſtrations of amity, reſolved to ſubmit her ſelf wholly to her directions. They had a long conference together, where they took thoſe meaſures which they judged were neceſſary to promote their common ſatisfaction. After this the Queen Mother ſpoke to the King, but found him in a cold reſerved humour, ſo ſhe made him no diſcoveries of any thing, but took her opportunity to withdraw, imagining with her ſelf that her Son would be obliged to come after her; and that the world might take leſs notice of this alteration, ſhe gave out that ſhe only deſired to live eaſie, and that ſhe preferred her own repoſe to all other conſiderations whatſoever: She talked after this rate before ſeveral perſons, in whom ſhe repoſed no ordinary confidence, altho at the bottom ſhe was clearly of a different opinion.

The Conſtable was the firſt man that was aware of this alteration, and was one of thoſe who were mightily troubled at it. He eaſily ſaw that the Queen Mother was leaving all thoughts of advancing him, and as he had his own particular views, ſo he uſed all the means in the world to effect his deſigns. In fine, he joyned intereſts with the *Camarera Major*, Don *Jeronimo d' Eguya*, and the King's Confeſſor, who brought the Duke of *Alva* into the ſame confederacy: the deſign of theſe three laſt was to ſet up the Conſtable againſt the Duke *de Medina Celi*, whoſe favour with the King increaſed, as they thought, very faſt, and this gave them violent jealouſies of him. The Conſtable for his

part

part endeavoured to gain by them what they deſigned to make the Duke *de Medina Celi* loſe; his Emiſſaries began to promote the affair with very favourable appearances, but after they had ſeriouſly reflected upon the imperious humour of the Conſtable. 'He is ſo arrogant and haughty, ſaid they, that he would rather ruin every 'man of us, than ever be brought to own that 'he was obliged to us for his elevation, and 'whatever Miniſter has his place, will certainly 'be leſs dangerous than he.

Don *Jeronimo d' Eguya*, who thought of nothing elſe but how to ballance the credit of theſe two Lords one with the other, did not neglect their reflections. He mentioned them almoſt every day, and endeavoured to make them more ſtrong if it were poſſible, he found it would be a great deal more advantagious to him to continue in the ſame condition, than to ſee himſelf ſubjected to a new dependance, and this reaſon obliged him to inſpire the King with an averſion and jealouſie for the Conſtable; ſo that inſtead of doing him any ſervice as he promiſed, he did him underhand all the ill offices imaginable.

When our own particular intereſt lies at ſtake, and we are purſuing the dictates of our ambition, we are ſo clear-ſighted, that it is a difficult matter for any one to deceive us long. We penetrate even into the moſt ſecret thoughts of him that calls himſelf our friend, and eaſily find out whether he doth us good or ill. Purſuant to this maxim, the Conſtable ſoon perceived how well he was ſerved by his friends, and what

what designs each of them drove in particular. It is no difficult matter to imagine how a person of his Temper, as I have already described, resented this usage, and his uneasiness to be sure was so much the more violent because he smother'd it for some time before he let it break out.

Don *Jeronimo de Eguya* was the first person whom he attacqued. Having represented to them one day in a full Council, and that with the greatest fierceness in the world, how all affairs went from bad to worse, he added, that no body ought to be surprized to find it so, since *d' Eguya* who pretended, to manage every thing, had neither Judgment, nor Experience, nor Capacity, and that he ought to be confined to the Duties of his Post, without medling with those things that had no relation at all to it. When he had ended his discourse, Don *Manuel de Lira* Secretary of State of the Council of *Italy*, who was of the Constables Faction, presented to them at the same time a large memorial, in which he laid open the vast prejudice which the State of Affairs received from the ill conduct of *de Eguya*, and most of them there had been well enough satisfied, if these complaints had obliged the King to remove him.

Don *Manuel de Lira* did not act only out of Complaisance to the Constable but had his own private ends. He imagined that if *d' Eguya* were once turned out of his Post, he might perhaps succeed him in it Now nothing animates a man's zeal in any affair, more than the prospect of some advantage or other to be gained by it.

However

However this ſame buſineſs did not meet with that ſucceſs which he and the Conſtable propoſed to themſelves, ſo after long conſideration the Conſtable was obliged to come back to the Queen Mother, and importune her to appear in favour of him. He repreſented to her, 'That 'if the Chief Miniſter was not one of her party, 'her repoſe would not be of long continuance; 'that the Duke *de Medina Celi* ſtood very fair 'for it, and altho he advanced inſenſibly, yet it 'was probable he would ſoon find himſelf poſ-'ſeſſed of a place where he would make his Ene-'mies ſeverely feel the weight of his Indignation; 'that in ſpight of Politicks, to which he pretend-'ed, he would not fail to ſet up the Preſident of '*Caſtile* againſt her, who was a Creature of Don '*Juan*, and always ready to execute thoſe reſent-'ments that had lodged in his breaſt ſo long; 'that this Duke was the very perſon who for-'merly had the hardineſs to carry her the Order 'for her Exile; that he ſeem'd at that time to 'rejoyce at her misfortunes and perplexities; that 'if ever he came to be Favourite, ſhe would 'find him to be a conſtant rub in her way, and 'that this conjecture perhaps was not ill ground-'ed, ſince the Duke ſtill poſſeſſed all the paſſi-'ons of Don *Juan*.

The Queen Mother was alarmed at what the Conſtable repreſented to her, and gave him her word to act vigorouſly in his behalf; but the Duke *de Medina Celi* being advertiſed of it, was reſolved to prevent the blow, and judged it the beſt expedient to ſoften the Spirit of the Queen Mother, by making a profound Sub-

miſſion

miſſion to her. In fine he went to her, and told her, 'That he was reſolved to be oblig'd 'to her for all the King's favours, and deſired to 'depend upon her out of an obligation of Gra- 'titude, as he had done a long time ago out of 'Duty and Inclination; that he humbly begged 'of her to do him the juſtice as to believe, that 'his Heart, his Birth, and his Fortune, were too 'great ever to ſuffer him to be one of Don *Juan*'s 'Creatures; that he would never receive that 'title but from his own Maſter, and that the 'Party muſt wear a Crown who commanded 'the Duke *de Medina Celi*; that altho he had 'declared himſelf for the Preſident of *Caſtile*, 'yet it was not out of a Conſideration of Don 'Juan, but the King's Service, and he was ready 'to abandon his Intereſt at any time, having no 'particular engagements of Friendſhip to him; 'and that if he appeared in this affair, it was 'only done with a deſign to defend the Autho- 'rity of the King, which the Nuncio had a 'mind to invade in the conduct which he uſed 'towards the Preſident. The Queen Mother anſwered him, that ſhe did not without a great ſatisfaction, believe what he ſaid to be true, that ſhe had a great eſteem for him, and would not fail to give him convincing proofs of it in a ſhort time.

The Conſtable being informed on his ſide, that Queen Mother had very favourably receiv- ed the Submiſſion of the Duke, whether out of a Spirit of kindneſs, or indifference to the choice the King might make of a Chief Miniſter, diſ- paired at laſt of ſeeing himſelf ſucceed in any of his

his projects, either of the Junto whereof he pretended to be a Member if one were erected, or in the place of Favourite which he could have desired rather to fill alone. He resolved to merit something at least of the Duke *de Medina Celi*, by yielding up that Post with a good grace, when he was in a capacity to dispute it with him still.

In short, he laid hold of the first opportunity he could find, to tell the King that no Person was fitter to serve his Majesty, and preserve the Government in good order, than the Duke *de Medina Celi*. He bestowed wonderful commendations upon him for the good conduct he had ever used; The free unconstrained manner wherein he spoke all this, was exceeding remarkable, especially in a man of the Constables haughty Temper, who, as the world imagined, would dye a thousand times, rather than offer this violence inwardly to himself: But people at last believed that he design'd to render himself agreeable to the King, by commending a man, for whom his Majesty testified so great an Inclination. After all, it must be confessed that he showed a generosity, which is not common, in treating his declared Enemy after this manner.

It cannot be easily imagin'd, what a great detriment the Republick received by these Factions of the Courtiers, and the King's Irresolution to take or not take a Chief Minister. Nothing was concluded, nothing was done; a Spirit of Lethargy seemed to be predominant at Court, which helped to increase those perplexities,

plexities, under which the Kingdom laboured before. Every body languiſhed to ſee what would be the ſucceſs of the ſmalleſt matters; and buſineſs that had been carried into the Council, tarried there whole years, nay things that went directly into the King's hands were diſpatched never the ſooner. Thus no one knew what Party to take, or where to addreſs himſelf.

Our Ambaſſador who promiſed himſelf to find a better treatment than he had met with a long while, and which he dexterouſly diſſembled in expectation of the Queen's arrival, perceived at laſt that they deſigned to ſatisfie him no better, than the other Miniſters. who made their Complaints. About five Months were paſſed ſince he demanded Juſtice for ſome violations of the Peace that were lately committed as well by the Governors of the Provinces, as by the taking of ſeveral Veſſels, and the burning of others. But at the time when he was urgent to have a poſitive anſwer, he received a new injury by the inſolence of an (*a*) Alcalde, and ſeveral (*b*) Alguazils who paſſed before his Houſe, which was never done at *Madrid*, in the quarter belonging to an Ambaſſador. He was extremely ſurprized at it, but was ſo far from receiving the ſatisfaction that was due to him for this affront, that they told him His Majeſty had given Order that his quarter ſhould

(*a*) Who is a kind of a Provoſt or Judge.
(*b*) Theſe are Serjeants and Bayliffs.

be

be no longer exempt. This Reſolution ſo much the more diſguſted him, becauſe it affected only himſelf, and all the other Ambaſſadors enjoyed their Priviledges as formerly. Not but that they had ſeveral other complaints upon their Hands, as for example, the Envoy from the Elector of *Brandenburgh* made a great noiſe becauſe they had amuſed him a long time with ſpecious promiſes that had no effect at all; they ow'd his Maſter a great Sum of money, he demanded the payment of it, but they ſhifted him off from time to time, ſo that at laſt he perceived that they neither had the power nor inclination to ſatisfie him. The Nuncio did not ſeem to be leſs diſguſted for his part, becauſe he ſaw the Preſident of *Caſtile* keep his Place and continue ſtill in Favour, altho the Pope had declared him ſuſpended, and he himſelf omitted no application to have juſtice done upon him.

In the mean time they wanted mony to raiſe four *Spaniſh* Regiments that were deſigned to be ſent to *Milain*, becauſe they apprehended ſome motion from the Court of *France*, but it was almoſt impoſſible to find any funds, and beſides this the Silver that came from the *Indies* in the *Flota* was ſo ſuddenly gone and with ſo little order, that no body knew what was become of it, ſo that it was a difficult matter to ſend any returns into *Flanders*, or other places, where there was occaſion. Thoſe that uſed to advance mony upon theſe ſorts of occaſions, would now do nothing at all,

all, they were all of them drained, and the neceſſities were generally ſo great, that they knew not where to take up mony to defray the ordinary expences of the King and Queens Houſe. This proceeded in part from the diſorder of the mony; a Piſtole which ought to go for no more than fourty eight *Reals de Vellon*, was raiſed up to a hundred and ten; and the Patacoons that are only worth twelve *Reals* went at the rate of thirty. The occaſion of it was this, a great part of the *Reals de Vellon*, that are of Copper, were bad, and the common cuſtom made them paſs as well in commerce, as if they had been good. But at laſt they were called in all on the ſudden, by reaſon of the exceſſive price a Piſtole was raiſed to, and 'tis impoſſible to recount the diſorders and inconveniencies that attended this new Regulation. The Court was of opinion in the month of *February* 1680. that there was a neceſſity to find out ſome remedy or other ſuddenly for it; ſo a Piſtole from a hundred and ten *Reals* was levelled to fourty eight, the Patacoons to twelve, and the other mony was ſo confounded one with the other, that it was reduced to the eighth part of the ordinary value. There was no body almoſt but loſt more or leſs upon the account of this new Regulation, and accordingly felt it; that which before the ſinking the value of the mony was worth fourty *Reals*, which make four Livers of *French* mony, ſince the reducing of it, was worth a hundred and ten

Reals,

Reals, which is ten Livers of our mony; ſo that what Commodities a man could buy on *Munday* for fifty Sous, went on the *Tueſday* for above a third part more; and the Debtor, who, it may be, on *Saturday* owed twenty thouſand *Reals de Vellon*, which made but two hundred Piſtoles, found to his ſorrow the next day after that he owed near five hundred Piſtoles. This ruined a great number of Families, and cauſed a mighty dejection in the ſpirits of the people; for every thing a man has occaſion to buy, is dearer by much in *Madrid* than any where elſe, becauſe they are brought a great way off, and there are few or no Manufactures at all in that part of the Country. A kind of a mutiny happened at *Toledo*, becauſe after this ſinking the value of mony, no care was taken to regulate the price of Proviſions, for which they paid exceſſive rates. It is ſtill to be noted, that the Civil Government in *Spain* is managed but after a very ſorry manner, and that the ſlow lazy humour of thoſe perſons, who might, if they pleaſed, correct the ill conduct of others, contributes exceedingly to the publick loſs.

All theſe diſorders and continual complaints, which made a noiſe from all quarters, began at laſt to ſhake and undermine Don *Jeronimo d' Eguya*. He knew very well, that the Poſt wherein he ſtood, was tickliſh and dangerous, and that after all his endeavours to diſguſt the world, in caſe he remedied nothing, the oblige maledictions and hatred would fall upon the Favourite.

The preſent ill ſtate of affairs was attributed to his ill conduct, ſo he thought within himſelf, that he could not too ſoon deliver himſelf from the torrent of the popular fury, and therefore reſolved to omit nothing, whereby he might incline the King to chooſe a Chief Miniſter. The conſideration of his own intereſt ſoon determined him to act vigorouſly in favour of the Duke *de Medina Celi*, he knew the King had a particular affection for him, and beſides he perſwaded himſelf, that when the Duke was informed what good offices he had done him, he would maintain him ſtill in his Poſt, as well out of a principle of acknowledgment, as for the great ſervices he might do him in theſe affairs, ſince he had managed them for ſo long a time, and conſequently was in a capacity to furniſh him with ſome neceſſary lights, which all thoſe perſons that newly enter into the Government are altogether unacquainted with. And then he knew the natural ſweetneſs of the Duke's temper would never permit him to turn him out of his place, and he was certain that as long as he continued in it, he could manage the King's favour, the functions of his place giving him opportunity to appoach near the King's perſon very often.

The *Camarera Major*, and his Majeſty's Confeſſor had each of them particular deſigns in their head, however they were both agreed as to the Duke's advancement, ſo that all the world concurring with the favourable diſpoſitions which the King had for him, he ſigned a Decree (that

is

is the uſual term with them in *Spain*) wherein he declared the Duke *de Medina Celi* to be Chief Miniſter. He immediately commanded Father *Relux* to carry it to him, who came to his Houſe about ten a Clock at night on the twenty firſt of *February* 1680. and acquainted him with the good news.

No body had any reaſon to be ſurprized at the Duke's elevation. It ſeems he had promiſed himſelf the place ſome time before, whether it were becauſe the King gave him his promiſe, or that ſome outward appearances aſſured him of it.

However it was, it was agreed upon by all hands at Court that the King could not have made a better choice. He was a perſon in whom all good qualities were to be found; his agreeable Converſation, his obliging Character, his noble and generous Deportment, his free eaſie Temper, made him beloved by all the world: People only wundered, that being ſo great a Lord as he was, he would ſacrifice his repoſe to the adminiſtration of Affairs, that were then in a miſerable condition. They could ſcarce imagine (and perhaps he was of the ſame opinion himſelf) how he could ever be able to remedy evils of ſo inveterate a malignity. Before he could effect this, he muſt in all appearance make an intire Change in the orderiug of the Monarchy, but this was an impracticable deſign, and impoſſible to be executed.

As ſoon as the choice His Majeſty had made in favour of the Duke, came to be publickly known; all Perſons that were of any Quality went to complement him, as well the Miniſters of foreign Princes, as the Grandees of *Spain*. The next day being accompanied by all his Friends and Relations, he repaired to Court to kiſs his Majeſty's hand, and thank him moſt humbly for all his great favours. On the following days he received viſits in his Bed, pretending a ſlight indiſpoſition to exempt himſelf from the fatigue of Ceremonies. His Apartment and Furniture were extreamly magnificent, but it is an odd ſight to ſee a *Spaniard* in his Bed of State, becauſe they wear no Morning Gowns here, but only their *Golilia* and black Cloaks, and have their Hats on, or elſe are bare-headed, for the Men as well as the Women wear no Caps; He had enjoyed the place of *Sumiller de Corps*, *i. e.* Lord Chamberlain for a long time, and in this Quality he was the only perſon that commanded in the King's Chamber, and lay there.

He did not delay to give publick Audience in the Hall, which they call the *Rubie*, and is the place where the Council of State uſes to aſſemble. 'Tis under the King's Apartment. Here it was that the Duke received the viſit of the Nuncio and the *Venetian* Ambaſſador, they did not ſeem to be pleaſed at the manner wherein the Chairs were diſpoſed, becauſe it could not abſolutely be determined whether either of them or he had the Chief Place of Honour.

Honour. Beſides this, he only reconducted them to the middle of the Hall of Audience. They acquainted the Marqueſs *de Villars* with it, who told them that he had deſigned to make that viſit along with them, becauſe the Ambaſſadors of the Chappel generally acquit themſelves of theſe ſorts of devoirs together, but that he was not diſpleaſed with himſelf for not being there, ſince he was reſolved to take direction by the fault they had committed; and that he would not neglect, as they did, to uſe all neceſſary precautions about the Step, Place and Rank, and would be aſſured both of the one and the other before he performed that Ceremony. In ſhort, he ſent to the Duke to know whether he would not receive him, as Don *Louis de Haro* uſed to receive the Ambaſſadors of *France*; he immediately agreed to it, and that there might be no miſtakes committed, the places were marked out, and every thing was adjuſted before the day of Audience. The other Ambaſſadors were concerned at the overſight they had committed, and by this viſit of our Ambaſſador, regulated thoſe they continued to make to the Chief Miniſter.

The Count *de Monterey* kiſſed the Kings hand and the Queens, he complemented them from the part of the City of St. *Jago de Compoſtella*, the Marqueſs *d' Aſtorgas* did the ſame from the City of *Avila*.

About this time Don *Franciſco d' Agourto* was nominated by the King to be Maſter of

the Camp General of the Cavalry. The Envoy extraordinary from *England* ſurprized all the Court by the ſtrict prohibition he gave his Domeſticks not to ſuffer any Eccleſiaſticks or Religious to come within his Doors.

The young Queen was ſo taken up with the diverſions of the Carnaval, that ſhe had ſcarce opportunity to perceive that this was a ſet time of mirth and jollity: Her beſt days were ſpent in hunting with the King, and the three laſt days of the Carnaval there was a Comedy repreſented upon the Theatre at *Buen-Retiro*, which is a well-contrived Building. The King and the Queen ſaw it on the *Sunday*, the next day it was acted before the ſeveral Councils, and on *Tueſday* before the Officers of the City. The Queen being informed that the Dutcheſs *de Bejar*, and the Marchioneſs *de Caſtel Rodrigo*, who had never bore any Children before, were each of them delivered of a Son, begged leave of the King to ſend them word that ſhe wiſhed them joy, 'I agree to it, ſays the King ſmiling, on con-'dition that within nine months they will 'come in their turn to perform the ſame com-'plement to you.

All *Spain* impatiently expected to ſee what remedies the New Miniſters would apply to thoſe diſorders, that ſeemed for a long time to be radicated in the Monarchy; but whatever good intentions he had to rectifie them, he found it a difficult matter to put them in execution. The King's Treaſury was exhauſted,

ed, ſeveral private Families ruined, the price of all Commodities exceſſive high, and theſe perplexities were heightned by the connivance of the Magiſtrates, and the length of time. During the Miniſtry of Don *Juan* nothing had been ſet in order, and ſince his death one would have thought they had affected to abandon all manner of buſineſs.

To this we may add, that the Duke *de Medina Celi* had never been in any employ, where he might learn that experience which is ſo neceſſary for Government. He was born and bred in the Genius of *Madrid*, which is ſo ſupine and careleſs, that nothing almoſt is determined there. Nay what is more, he ſuffered the Maſter of the Council to deliberate about the Publick Affairs, after the ſame manner, as he did, before his Miniſtry, and ſubmitted to take his Counſel; he likewiſe erected *Junta's* to debate of thoſe things, which he ſuppoſed to carry any great difficulty with them.

He erected one amongſt the reſt, to which he nominated the Conſtable, the Admiral, and the Marqueſs *d' Aſtorgas*, all which three were Councellors of State; he alſo admitted three Divines, whereof the King's Confeſſor was one, and three Councellors of the King's Council to examine along with him the Affair of the Preſident of *Caſtile*, about which the Nuncio made ſo great a noiſe. The occaſion of this Diſpute was this, Monſieur *Mellini*, the Nuncio, had a mind to preſide over

a Chapter of Religious, whom they call *Clericos Minores*, who were going to chooſe a Provincial. The Preſident deſired that one of his friends might be named; now he knew that the Nuncio had a kindneſs for another, ſo he went the ſhorteſt way to work, and obtained a Decree of the King, which forbad him to preſide in that Aſſembly, and becauſe he did not exactly obey it, he was fined a thouſand Crowns.

The Nuncio ſuffered this ſtrange treatment with indignation enough, and complained of it to the Pope. His Holineſs writ to the King about it, and Don *Juan* promiſed him to get the Fine revoked; but the many diſorders that happened after his death, hindred the execution of it. The King thought the buſineſs was laid aſleep, becauſe he writ a very ſubmiſſive Letter to the Pope about it, but for all that, the Nuncio, who was not to be appeaſed by a Letter, renewed the quarrel after the Prince's death. He ſaw that the King had not as yet pitched upon a Chief Miniſter, and judged that the Preſident of *Caſtile* was not well ſupported; he knew he had abundance of enemies, and that amongſt the reſt the Queen Mother was the moſt inveterate againſt him. All theſe conſiderations ſerved to perſwade him, that he ſhould obtain an intire ſatisfaction without any trouble.

He pretended therefore that he ought to loſe his Place, and to go to *Rome* to have the ſuſpenſion

ſuſpenſion taken off, which he had incurred in the year 1679. The Court abſolutely refuſed to grant him what he demanded; upon this he complained very highly to the King, telling him that he ill performed what he had promiſed the Pope in his Letter.

The Duke *de Medina Celi* being advanced to the Miniſtry, was willing to examine the reaſons of the Nuncio, and thoſe of the Preſident by a *Junta*. 'Twas alledged in favour of the laſt, that being a native of *Spain*, the King could not abandon him to the Pope's reſentments if at the bottom he did not deſerve it; that it was true indeed he had done irregular things upon ſeveral occaſions, but then his Place was of that nature, that he could not forfeit it unleſs it were for reaſons of the greateſt importance: The Chief Miniſter declared, that he ſhould keep his Place of being Preſident of the Council of the *Indies*, and that Don *Vincente Gonzaga* ſhould perform all his Functions. He received with extraordinary ſatisfaction the offer which the Admiral of *Caſtile* made, to reſign the Office of Maſter of the Horſe to him, which is generally poſſeſt by the Favourite, but would not accept of it.

He gave order to Don *Gabriel Quinones*, Secretary of the Council of War, to bring in his accounts, out of hopes of drawing ſome mony from thence; and indeed the State was never in ſuch extremity of want as now; for ſince the publiſhing of the King's

King's Declaration for ſinking the value of mony, all Commerce was intirely ſtopt, the Shops continued ſhut up, and the people groaned under the greateſt neceſſities imaginable. The Duke uſed all his power to remedy theſe preſſing Grievances, he deſigned to coin new mony, and to leſſen the price of all Commodities, but the effect of his good intentions was long delayed, and the publick miſery increaſed more and more every day.

Hereupon a man of great buſineſs, whoſe name was *Marcos Dias* preſented a Memorial to the Duke, wherein he propoſed a method to raiſe the King's Revenue, and yet eaſe the people; he offered to prove that the Magiſtrates of the City of *Madrid*, under pretence of reimburſing themſelves of the mony they had lent the late King, had raiſed conſiderable ſumms, and had never given any account of them. He propoſed a way to force them to refund the overplus, as well to ſupply the preſent want, as to prevent the like exactions for the time to come. The Duke hearkned to him, and told him his advice was good. Immediately after this *Marcos Dias* preſented another Memorial to him, wherein he ſhewed, that his Majeſty's Dues were conſiderably diminiſhed, that he offered to pay the full worth of them, and yet to make an advance of two hundred thouſand Crowns, a preſent of a hundred thouſand Crowns to the King, and leſſen the impoſition of the Dues one half of what it amounted

amounted to the year 1664. when they were leſs by one third part, than they were this preſent year. For this he demanded that the Rents of the Guild-Hall of the City of *Madrid*, the payments whereof were aſſigned for theſe funds, ſhould be reduced to five in the hundred, whereas they were riſen to eight; and what is more, he ſtill offered to reimburſe thoſe perſons who were not willing to ſuffer this diminution.

It is natural to believe, that he knew his own accounts well enough, not to loſe any thing by his project, and to ſay the truth he had been no loſer: for the diſorders and rapines were at that time ſo great, that not a ninth part of the King's rights came into his Coffers. The Duke foreſeeing the event of this affair, adviſed *Marcos Dias* not to ſtir out of the Palace, but he had a mind to go to *Alcala*, and he returned with vomiting of blood and Convulſions, which occaſioned the belief that he was poiſoned: for this overture of accommodating the publick affairs, diſguſted ſome particular perſons of great eſtates, who got prodigious ſumms at the expence of the King and People. Theſe perſons, to avert this blow, had written to *Dias*, and threatned to have him infallibly ſtabbed if he continued his propoſals. He was very apprehenſive of the danger he incurred, and beſides this, theſe very Magiſtrates offered the ſame terms to his Majeſty: But the Duke ſaw there was all the reaſon

in

in the world to prefer *Dias*, and ſo he refuſed the others. Upon a conſideration of what theſe differences might produce, the Duke adviſed him to have a care of himſelf, till the Treaty was concluded. The advice was good, if he had had the good fortune to have followed it, but as he came back from *Alcala* to *Madrid*, he met ſome men in Maſques, who gave him ſeveral blows with little bags full of Sand, ſo that he ſpit abundance of blood at his mouth, and being ſeized with a violent Feavor died on the firſt day of *April*. The Corrigidor, and ſome other Officers of the City were the men that were principally exaſperated againſt him, becauſe he had diſcovered their Villanies a little before: nevertheleſs they were willing to ſubmit to ſome beneficial alterations in matters, and ſo they reduced the Rents of the Guild-Hall of the City, from eight to five in the hundred. There was alſo ſome ſmall regulation made in the Civil Government, but the Duke could not forbear to be ſenſibly touched for loſing, by the death of *Dias*, an opportunity to ſerve the King and eaſe the People.

In the mean time the people who had fully flattered themſelves that if the Propoſals made by *Dias* had taken effect, they ſhould have met with plenty inſtead of want; being informed of his indiſpoſition, flocked about his Houſe, and cryed out aloud, that he was poiſoned, and that this buſineſs ought to be examined to the bottom, becauſe he ſuffered for the

the good will he had expreſſed towards them. They added menaces againſt thoſe perſons who had oppoſed ſuch profitable advice, and as the King accidentally paſſed by them in his Coach, a great body of them got about the Coach, and followed it crying,

Vive el Roi y muera el mal Goviorno, that is to ſay, *Let the King live, and the ill Government dye.*

There were great endeavours uſed to moderate the firſt motions of the popular fury, which exceedingly increaſed on the day that *Dias* died. Above ſix thouſand were got together, who ran up and down the Streets complaining and weeping bitterly, every one of them ſaid, that they had murdered the only man that wiſhed them well. They accompanied his body to the place of burial, and the Streets were ſo full of people, that the King durſt not ſtir out of his Palace, altho he was to go to a great Feſtival that was celebrated by the Jeſuits, and he had a great deſire to be there. There was little probability that they would ever be appeaſed, but as good fortune would have it, the multitude was only made up of poor irreſolute people, whoſe ſpirits were broken by the miſeries of which they complained. All this Tempeſt paſt over in vain menaces, and ſome injuries againſt ſome conſiderable perſons, but however it did not alter the State of Affairs.

At

At this ſame time word was ſent to the Nuncio, by an expreſs Order from Court, that he ſhould enjoy no other priviledges than what the Ambaſſador of *Spain* did at *Rome*. This was a new occaſion of diſcontent to him; but the Action was general, and they took care to inform the other Forreign Miniſters, that for the future the would allow them only the ſame priviledges as their Princes allowed to the Ambaſſadors of his Catholick Majeſty; ſo that he had no reaſon to complain ſince he was treated but like the reſt. This reſolution was taken upon this account. Six *Alguazils de Corte* paſſing before the Houſe of the *Venetian* Ambaſſador, it ſeems three of his Footmen knew them, and demanded of them how they durſt have the impudence to go through their Quarter. The *Alguazels* returned them a ſawcy anſwer, whereupon the ſervants drew their Swords, but the *Alguazels* fired immediately upon them, and killed them upon the place. The Ambaſſador made great complaints about it, they promiſed to give him full ſatisfaction, but to avoid the doing of it, they thought it more expedient to revoke all the Franchiſes.

The King received a Letter from the Vice-Roy of *Naples*, and was extreamly glad to hear that he had found out a way to borrow three hundred thouſand Crowns of the Merchants of *Genoa* for the raiſing four thouſand men that were to be ſent into the *Milaneſe*:

laneſe: But they were perſwaded at Court that it would be a long time before they could be in a condition to get there, becauſe they demanded a further ſupply of mony from *Madrid*, and here they wanted it, without exception, for every thing. However this did not hinder them from uſing all imaginable efforts to contribute towards the raiſing of theſe four thouſand men, becauſe they were exceedingly alarmed at the Treaty of *Caſal*, which they pretended our King had bought of the Duke of *Mantua*. They apprehended, this was an open paſs to render himſelf Maſter of *Italy* when he pleaſed, and they were fully perſwaded that he had ſent an Army thither upon this ſcore.

The *Genoeſe* firſt whiſpered and ſpread about theſe jealouſies, which at laſt reached the *Venetians*, ſo that they drew their Soldiers out of their Garriſons in *Dalmatia*, and beſtowed them in their own Towns in *Lombardy*, where they made ſome new Fortifications. The Emperor for his part was as much alarmed as the reſt of his Neighbours, for he ſent his Troops to the *Milaneſe* to guard them, and ſeveral Princes of *Italy* put themſelves to a great deal of trouble, out of an apprehenſion of a rupture. But if there was any reaſon to fear one, it was from the ſide of *Biſca*, where the people of that Province, who are under the dominion of *Spain*, have almoſt every day ſome diſputes with thoſe that live under the dominion of *France*, ſometimes

ſometimes about the fiſhing, at other times about other differences, each of them appropriating the River *de Bidaſſoa* to themſelves, ſo that they ſeldom live in peace. Matters came to that upſhot at laſt, that they burnt ſeveral Barques, and took ſeveral of the *French* priſoners. Our Ambaſſador was ordered to demand juſtice for theſe injuries, and frequently ſpoke to the Miniſters about it, who continued deaf in theſe caſes becauſe they had no mind to redreſs them. They perſiſted to be ſo ſtiff and obſtinate upon this occaſion, that the Ambaſſador declared at laſt to Don *Vincente Gonzaga*, that his Maſter would order his Troops to march towards the Frontiers, by which means it would be more eaſie to get ſatisfaction for the inſolence of the Biſcayneers, than by ſending to the Council at *Madrid*, that His Majeſty was concerned for the tranquility of his Subjects, and that he would take a due courſe to procure it. *Gonzaga* heard Monſieur *de Villars* very patiently, and told him at laſt that he was ſurprized to find him addreſs himſelf to him becauſe he was no longer Commiſſary, and that the Marquels *de los Balbazes* had been nominated to his Place above a month before. The Ambaſſador acquainted him, that generally theſe ſorts of Changes are not made without informing thoſe perſons who are intereſted in them, and that as for himſelf he had never heard the leaſt mention of it. Don *Vincente* replied, that Don *Pedro Colonna* had been ordered

dered to inform him of it, but that in truth he was a negligent perſon, and had ſhowed himſelf ſo not only on this occaſion. Upon this he made ſome particular reflections that were not very obliging to the new Secretary of State.

Don *Pedro Fernandez del Campo*, Marqueſs *de Majorada*, who had been formerly Secretary of State, and to whom the Marqueſs *de Valenzuela*, when he became ſole Favourite had an averſion, becauſe he would not blindly obey him, died of grief for the loſs of his Place, and to ſee it ſtill poſſeſſed by Don *Jeronimo d' Eguya*.

The number of the Maids of Honour belonging to the Queen, was about this time augmented. The King added to them the Daughter of the Princeſs *Pio*, thoſe of the Counteſs *de Villambroſa*, the Marqueſs *do Pouar*; the Duke *d' Hijar*, Donna *Eleonora* of the Houſe *de Zapara*, the Niece of the Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova*, and Mademoiſelle *de Lalain*, who was a Flemiſh woman. But altho this was a Teſtimony of the particular conſideration which the King had for his Young Queen, becauſe ordinarily the Queens of *Spain* have not ſo many, yet he could not forbear to be ſenſibly tormented at the Stories which the *Camarera* continually buzzed into his ear. Don *Melchior Navarra*, who had formerly been Vice-Chancellor of *Arragon*, and whom Don *Juan* baniſhed to *Cienpuzuelos*, was called home at the intreaties of the

Queen Mother. Nay it was even believed that the King would give him the Place of Preſident of *Caſtile*, in caſe the Preſident, who was then embroyled with the Nuncio, were turned out of his Place.

The King and Queen had the pleaſure of hearing Maſs celebrated at the Jeſuits College in the Chaldean language, by a Prieſt of the City of *Muzal*, which was heretofore called *Ninive*. After it was over, the Queen, who was always deſirous of informing herſelf in matters of Curioſity, ſent for him to come to her, and by the means of an Interpreter, ſhe asked him ſeveral queſtions, and amongſt the reſt, whether the women were as ſeverely lock'd up at *Muzal*, as they were at *Madrid*. This queſtion, altho there was nothiug criminal in it, was ſo maliciouſly explained by the Dutcheſs *de Terra nova*, that the King was obſerved to look upon her with a great deal of Coldneſs for ſome days after. This did not hinder the Queen Mother from going to viſit her, who aſſured her with all the Tenderneſs imaginable how ſenſibly ſhe was concerned at theſe ill Offices that were done her. They went together to St. *Marie la Royalle*, where was celebrated the Beatification of *Torribio Alphonſo Mogrobejo*, Second Archbiſhop of *Lima*: The Muſick of the Chappel was there; their Majeſties were informed at their return that the Great Arch Deacon of *Madrid* was dead. The Queen Mother ſeemed to be deſirous of ſeeing this Dignity filled by

by one of her own Creatures, and the Young Queen propoſed to ſend to Cardinal *Portocarero* to demand it of him: But now it was too late, for the Cardinal to prevent all Sollicitations upon this point, made haſte to gratify his Nephew Don *Pedro Portocarero* with it.

In the mean time, whilſt theſe ſmall things happened, News was brought that a Squadron of *French* men of War, commanded by the Marqueſs *de Valbelle*, was arrived before the Iſle of *Majorca*, to demand of the Viceroy ſome Merchantmen that had been taken by the Corſairs, ſince the peace, and Monſieur *Valbelle* had in his hands an Order of the King of *Spain* for their Reſtitution. The Viceroy would not reſtore theſe prizes, alledging 'That the Perſons who had taken 'them had already ſhared and divided them, 'and that they were not all of them *Majorcans*; 'that the Effects were all conſumed and gone, and 'for his part he demanded Damages for cer-'tain hoſtilities which theſe Corſairs had ſuf-'fered. *Valbelle* continued his inſtances, but ſeeing they had no Effect; he declared that he would not forget to make uſe of the Right of Repriſals; 'That the Subjects 'of the King of *Spain*, whenever he met them 'on the Sea, ſhould find it to their coſt; that 'the King his Maſter had reaſon to complain 'of the uſage he found at their hands; That 'ſeveral Governors and Viceroys dependant 'upon the King of *Spain* had taken liberty to

'commit all injuſtices againſt the Freuch; that 'it was almoſt to no purpoſe to demand ſatis-'faction from thoſe at *Madrid*, where the Coun-'cils were filled with perſons who had played 'the ſame Tricks, when they were in the like 'poſts, and conſequently durſt not condemn and 'puniſh others for the very ſame crimes they 'had committed themſelves; that he was 'aſſured this was the reaſon that occaſioned this 'impunity and all their frivolous pretences: In 'a word, that he was going to take ano-'ther courſe with them, and do himſelf Ju-'ſtice.

Theſe Menaces, one would have thought, were ſufficient to alarm thoſe perſons that were concerned in them; but they have this Maxim in *Spain*, that provided the danger is a little remote, they never fear it, whether this happens through inſolence or temerity, and they rather chuſe to ſuffer the diſorders, that always fall out in military executions, than give themſelves the trouble to do juſtice upon the complaints that are made.

But before I finiſh the firſt part of my Memoirs; I think it will not be altogether amiſs to ſay ſomething of the Councils of *Spain*, according to the beſt information I have received concerning them.

The

The Council of State.

The number of theſe Counſellors is not fixed, they don't obſerve the right of Seniority amongſt themſelves, but take their Places as they happen to come into the Chamber. The King adminiſters the Oath to them, and they ſit, as the Secretaries of State do upon benches, with backs to them, every man has his Cuſhion, the Counſellors are in the middle near the Table, the Secretaries of State at both ends.

When the King aſſiſts there, he has a Table above that of the Counſellors, who for that time have only places, and the Secretaries of State ſtand.

This Council is held twice every *Saturday*, and but once on *Mondays* and *Tueſdays*, all of them are called his Counſellors, and they deliberate here upon affairs of the greateſt importance, ſuch as Peace and War, Leagues and Truces. Here they likewiſe treat of the Marriage of the Kings and Princes of the Royal Family, and diſtribure the Viceroyſhips, and all the Governments of the Provinces that are under the Obedience of the King of *Spain*, and altho other affairs are examined in other Councils, yet the Counſellors of State don't for all that omit to give the King their advice about them.

Behold a Liſt of thoſe that compoſe this Council at preſent.

The Conſtable of *Caſtile*, who is the Dean of it.
The Duke of *Alva*.
Don *Pedro d' Arragon*.
The Admiral of *Caſtile*.
The Marqueſs *d' Aſtorgas*.
The Duke *D' Oſſone*
The Prince *de Stillano*.
Don *Vincente Gonzaga*, Prince *de Guaſtallo*.
Don *Louis Portocarero* Cardinal and Archbiſhop of *Toledo*.
The Marqueſs *de Liche*.
The Marqueſs *de los Balbazez*.
Don *Diego Sarmiento*.
The Prince *de Ligne*.
The Duke *de Villa Hermoſa*.
Don *Melchior Navarra*.
The Marqueſs *de los Velez*.
The Count *d' Oropeſa*.
The Marqueſs *de Manſera*.
And the Duke *d' Albuquerque*.

The Council Royal of Caſtile.

This Council is the chief of all, and to diſtinguiſh it from the reſt by a Title of Honour, the King calls it *Our Council*. It was eſtabliſhed by St. *Ferdinand* the third of that name, in the year

year 1246. There are in this Council a Preſident, Sixteen Counſellors, a Fiſcal, Six Reporters, Six Secretaries, a Regiſter, and a Keeper of the Regiſters, a Receiver of the Fines due to the Council, another of the Fines adjudged to particular perſons, a Treaſurer, a Deputy, and a dozen Porters. The Council aſſembles every *Friday* in the Palace, towards Evening the King comes there. The Kings, Don *Ferdinand* the Fourth, and Don *Alonzo* the laſt of that name, eſtabliſhed this Cuſtom. This Council is divided into four Chambers, where they diſtribute thoſe Affairs that are under their Jurisdiction in *Caſtile*.

One of them goes by the name of the Chamber of the fifteen hundred Piſtoles, becauſe ſuch a Sum is to be conſigned before any man can get a review of a proceſs which is pretended to be unjuſtly judged by the Parliaments of *Vailladolid* and *Granada*, which are the two Parliaments of *Caſtile*.

When the Preſident of *Caſtile*, goes out of the Council, the Counſellors follow him to his Chair; he never makes any Viſits, never gives the Right hand to any at his Houſe; he is to give the King an account of the moſt important affairs, that paſs in Council, where they name a Council every Week to report them.

When the King comes there, they all uncover themſelves and kneel down. Afterwards they cover themſelves and ſit.

When Audience is over, the King retires into his Cabinet with the Preſident, who diſcourſes him about buſineſs of the greateſt moment for which the King gives his Orders, and this does not return any more to the Chamber for the Counſellors to deliberate upon it.

In the Year 1609. all *Caſtile* was divided into five Diſtricts, and every Diſtrict is under a Counſellor of the Council Royal, who takes cognizance of the conduct of the Judges, the Lords, Eccleſiaſticks, and other ſecular Perſons. Beſides this, there is a particular Council that is called the Council of the Chamber of *Caſtile*; the Preſident is the Chief, and the King names a certain number of Counſellors of the Council Royal whether they be three, or four that compoſe it. Here it is that they diſpatch all Benefices in the King's Nomination, Titles, and Patents for the moſt conſiderable Places, Letters of Naturalization, and the Ratification of Orders to arreſt the Grandees of *Spain*, and the Graces and Favours, to which his Majeſty. is pleaſed to give his Conſent.

The King receives prodigious Sums of Money for the Places that are ſold by the means of theſe Counſellors. He gives likewiſe the Patents and Commiſſions of ſeveral places of Juſtice, and 'tis commonly pretended that in the two *Caſtiles*, the Kingdom of *Leon*, *Guypuſcoa*, *Biſcay*, the Province *de Hana*, and in

in *Navarr* there are above 72 thouſand places of Judicature.

Secretary of State, and of the Univerſal Diſpatch.

This Secretary is in a condition to ſerve or injure people, according as he ſtands affected to them, for all the Requeſts and Petitions, which they call Memorials here, and are preſented to the King or Chief Miniſter, paſs through his hands. 'Tis he who ſends them to his Counſellors, who are to give their advice concerning them: After the conſult is made (for this is their Phraſe in *Spain*) theſe Petitions are ſent back again to the Secretary of State, and when he reports them to the King, His Majeſty orders what pleaſes him, and this is called a Decree.

This Decree is expedited by perſons propoſed for that Office; ſo that when theſe Requeſts are carried to the King they ſay the Memorial is mounted; and when they are anſwered, they ſay the Memorial falls down; or elſe the Conſult aſcended and the Decree deſcended.

Without counting the Secretary of State, whom I have been ſpeaking of, there are two more that enter the Council, one of them diſpatches the Affairs of *Arragon*, of *Italy* and *Sicily*,

Sicily, the other thoſe of *Caſtile* and the *North*.

One of theſe is named Don *Manuel de Lira*, who was formerly Maſter of the Ceremonies, and Envoy Extraordinary in *Holland*; he was made at his return Secretary of State. The other is called Don *Pedro Colonna*, he is deſcended of a good Family, and thoſe of his Houſe have always poſſeſt great places. They may give their advice in writing in matters of conſequence.

The King ſends the Decrees to them, and through their hands Affairs go to the Council of State: They make a Report of them there, and gather the voices; and give an account of all to his Majeſty, who at laſt orders it as he thinks fit. They have power to aſſemble the Council out of the appointed days, when they judge it convenient, and when the King has a mind that they ſhould have any extraordinary meeting, they ſend the Order immediately to all the Counſellors.

Every Secretary of State has a Chief Commiſſary, who is called the Official Mayor, and exerciſes his Maſters Office, when he happens to be abſent. The Secretary of State for *Italy* has eight Commiſſaries reckoning him that is the principal, the King pays them: And the Secretary of State for the *North* has ſeven under him; They chuſe them themſelves and the King gives his conſent: Theſe diſpatch all Patents, and generally

nerally thoſe perſons that get into theſe Employments, advance their fortunes in the world.

The Council of War.

This began as ſoon as the Kingdoms of *Caſtile* and *Leon* were erected, under King *Pelagius*, in the year 720.

It aſſembles on *Mundays*, *Wedneſdays*, and *Fridays*: As for what concerns the Government of it, the King is always Preſident of it, and the Counſellers are men of the Sword. They muſt be men of experience and ſervice, the number of them is not fixed, and it depends upon the King's pleaſure to augment or to diminiſh them. Their places are not regulated in the Council, but they ſit as they they come. It is indeed true, that when the Counſellors of State are called thither, they have the upper end, but then they never come but at a time when a full Council of War is held. They have two Secretaries, who have each of them two Commiſſaries under them, one of theſe is for the Sea-affairs, and the others for thoſe at Land.

When they debate about matters of juſtice, an Aſſeſſor of the Council Royal, makes a report of them, who has likewiſe the priviledge to give his opinion before the Dean of the Council: The King comes there almoſt

moſt every day. There are beſides ſome other Chambers that depend upon this Council, ſuch as thoſe of the Flota's, the Gallies, and the Garriſons. The King nominates the Officers for theſe Chambers. The Councils are the ſame with thoſe of the Council of War, and 'tis the Chief Miniſter or the Preſident of *Caſtile* that preſides there.

Alcaldes of the Court.

The word *Alcalde* ſignifies a Judge of any place. This Tribunal is full as ancient as the Council Royal, whoever is judged to be a criminal by it can make no appeals but is executed immediately. For this reaſon it is named the *Quinta Sala*, that is to ſay, the fifth Hall. Here they determine both Civil and Criminal Affairs, but when theſe Councils were eſtabliſhed in *Caſtile*, the Judges thereof were reduced to four *Alcaldes*. They have been augmented ſince, and are nine at preſent, two Reporters and four Regiſters: Their Juriſdiction is divided into two parts, one, as I ſaid before, relates only to Criminal Matters, the other is like that of ordinary Judges, and is to direct the management of Civil Affairs.

The Supream Council of the Inquiſition.

This Council was erected in the year 1483. by Don *Ferdinand*, and Donna *Iſabella*, King and Queen of *Caſtile*, to defend and preſerve the Catholick Religion, altho it is certain that this Tribunal of the Inquiſition was eſtabliſhed ever ſince the year 1478. The Preſident of this Council is called the Inquiſitor General, and the Counſellors, the Apoſtolick Inquiſitors. They are named by the Pope, and there are in *Spain* above twenty thouſand Officers belonging to the Holy Inquiſition, whoſe buſineſs it is to ſeize the perſons of Criminals. Every Council conſiſts of ſix Inquiſitors (the word ſignifies Enquirers,) the Fiſcal who is the Accuſer, two Secretaries, and Alguazil Principal, two Reporters, a Receiver of the Fines, four Porters, and a Sollicitor. The Inquiſition keeps its Tribunals at *Madrid*, at *Toledo*, at *Granada*, at *Sevil*, at *Cordova*, at *Murcia*, at *Guenza*, at *Logrono*, at *Lierena*, in *Gallicia*, and at *Vailladolid*.

The Council of Orders.

This was erected in the year 1489. The Duke *de Seſſa* of the Houſe *de Cordonne* is now the Preſident of it, he has two Counſellors of the Order of St. *Jago*, two of *Calatrava*, two of *Alcantara*, a Fiſcal and a Secretary, who are all Knights.

The King is Grand Maſter of theſe three Orders, and is called the Perpetual Adminiſtrator of it.

This Council take Cognizance of the Temporal and Spiritual Government and of the Civil and and Criminal Juſtice of theſe Orders.

There are alſo Religious Men and Religious Women of it, who bring their proofs and carry the mark of the Order. 'Tis in concert with this Council that the King examines thoſe of his Subjects, who are capable of filling the places and vacant governments that depend upon the Order.

The

The Sacred Royal and Supream Council of Arragon.

The King Don *Ferdinand* eſtabliſhed this Council at *Madrid* in the year 1590. *Charles* the Fifth confirmed it in the year 1522. and appointed new Regulations of it in 1543. when he paſſed through *Catalonia* to go into *Italy*.

The Chief of this Council is called the Vice-Chancellor, who at preſent is Don *Pedro d' Arragon*, and the Prince *de Stillano* is Treaſurer General. This place is hereditary to the Family of the Duke *de Medina de las Torres*, and this Duke is the Head of it. Three of the Councellers are to be Natives of *Valentia*, three of *Arragon*, three of *Catalonia*, a Protonotary, a Fiſcal, four Secretaries, four Scriveners, a Procurator General, nine Commiſſaries for the great Regiſters, five for the little, one for Letters, four Porters, and an *Alguazil*: The Iſles of *Majorca*, *Minorca*, *Sardinia*, and *Innica* are under the juriſdiction of this Council; they take cognizance of every thing that happens within the extent of their Authority; and deliberate with the King about Eccleſiaſtick and Military Affairs, Vice-Roy-ſhips, Biſhopricks, the Finances, and in ſhort about whatſoever relates to the Civil Government.

The Council Royal of the Indies.

The *Spaniards* having had the good fortune to find out this part of the world which was unknown before, and to reduce it under the Dominion of *Spain*, His Catholick Majeſty in the year 1511. eſtabliſhed a Council of the *Indies* at *Madrid*; *Charles* the Fifth in 1524. added a clauſe to it about the preſerving of Religion, and ordained that it ſhould be compoſed of a Lord Chancellor, a Preſident, eight Councellers of the Long Robe, and four of the Sword, with a Deputy to the Chancellor, a Fiſcal, a Treaſurer, four *Contadores*, an Alguazil Mayor, two Secretaries who have each a dozen Commiſſaries under them, two Agents to the Fiſcal, five Reporters, one Hiſtoriographer, one Geographer, one Chaplain, one Sacriſtan, one Advocate, and one Proctor for the Poor, ten Porters, one Scrivener, and a Counceller of the Contratation at *Sevil*; this laſt is commanded to preſerve and keep together all the Ordinances and Laws for the *Indies*. There is a Chief, and an Under Commiſſary, and four more under him. This Council together with the King takes cognizance of every thing that has relation to the ſeveral Kingdoms and Provinces in the *Indies*, of Navigation, of War, of Peace, and of Civil and Criminal Affairs. *Philip* the Fourth created

created a Chamber for the *Indies* in the year 1644. Before the Duke *de Medina Celi* was made Chief Miniſter, he was Preſident of the Council, he ſtill retains the Profits as well as the Title of it, but he has placed in his room Don *Vincente Gonzaga* Councellor of State, by a Commiſſion; He is called the Governor of the Council of the *Indies*.

The Council of Italy.

Charles the Fifth firſt erected this Council in the year 1555. and afterwards *Philip* the Second did caſt it into a new Form. It is compoſed of ſix Councellors and a Preſident, which Office at preſent is filled by the Duke of *Alva* of the Houſe of *Toledo*. They are called Councellors Regent, and there are two for the affairs of *Milan*, two for thoſe of *Sicily*, and two for thoſe of *Naples*. Of this number three are to be *Spaniards*, and three *Italians*.

The laſt of theſe reſide upon the place where their Diſtrict is, and have a Fiſcal, a Secretary, two Reporters and four Porters.

The Preſident has no voice in the Affairs of Juſtice; His buſineſs is to propoſe perſons to the King for military Employments. This Council takes cogni-

zance of matters of State, of Grace, and of Juſtice that lie within the reach of their juriſdiction, as alſo of the Affairs of the Treaſury. They conſult with the King about the diſpoſing of Biſhopricks, and places of Juſtice, as well as thoſe of the Finances and the Civil Liſt, and in ſhort about all Governments of places, except ſome few that belong to the Council of State, as for example the Caſtle of *Naples* does. They deliberate about the Government of the *Milaneſe*, *Naples* and *Sicily*.

The Council of the Finances named de Hazienda.

Philip the Third in the year 1602. eſtabliſhed this Council. It conſiſts of four Tribunals, Don *Carlos Ramirez de Atellano* is Preſident of it; eight Councellors of the Sword, and the Preſident compoſe this Council. Their chief buſineſs lies in the recovery and adminiſtration of the Finances, in the raiſing and augmenting of the Rents, Graces, Priviledges and Conceſſions of the King. They make Treaties for defraying the expence of the Houſhold and of the Armies. When there is occaſion for advance-mony, they are to find out people to do it. The Preſident ſigns all the expeditions alone by himſelf,

ſelf, after he he has received the King's Order, and the conſult of the Council, for all Gratifications, Appointments, Aſſignments, Profits, Penſions, Ordinances and advances of Uundertakers.

Their expeditions are made in two Offices, in each of which there is a Chief Commiſſary, two Seconds, and two that are called *Entretenus*.

There are a dozen *Contadores*, that keep the Regiſters, and Accounts of this Council.

The laſt *Contador* is called *Ecrivain Major*, which ſignifies the Regiſter of his Majeſty's Rents: They all go the Council of the Finances, where they cover themſelves after they have ſtood bare for ſome time.

They give them a ſign to go, when the !Secretaries have a mind to come in. In the regard of the Affairs, and Trials belonging to the Tribunal of the *Oydores*, and the Council of the Finances, there is a great number of inferiour Officers, whoſe Places are ſold, and four Reporters, that are named by the Council.

The Council of the Cruſade.

Pope *Julius* the Second in the year 1509. granted the priviledge of the *Cruſade* to the Kings of *Spain*, to make war againſt the Infidels; the Revenue of it is ſo conſiderable, that it brings in ſeveral millions, and in the ſame year Queen *Joan* and the King her Father, who Governed in her name, formed and erected the Council of the *Cruzada*.

The Preſident thereof carries the Title of Commiſſary General, and he is at preſent Don *Henriquez de Benavides y Bazan*, Patriarch of the *Indies*. It is compoſed of two Councellors of the Council of *Caſtile*, and two Regents, one of the Council of *Arragon*, the other of that of the *Indies*, a Fiſcal, two Treaſurers, a Reporter, two Regiſters, and three Sollicitors. This Council gives permiſſion or licence to publiſh Jubiles, and to print Books; all the States of his Catholick Majeſty are under its juriſdiction, except thoſe of *Flanders*, *Milan* and *Naples*, who would never admit of its Authority. They Judge without Appeal.

The

The Council of Flanders.

Philip the Fourth named the Preſident and Councellors of it in the year 1628. This Council is ſuperiour to all thoſe that are eſtabliſhed in *Flanders*: The Prince *de Stillano* was Preſident of it, but the Count *de Monterey* is now preferred to this Poſt. It conſiſts of no more than three Councellors.

The Council d' Apoſento.

Since the firſt Floor that is raiſed in all the Houſes in *Madrid*, belongs to the King, this Council may Rent it, or Sell it until the Proprietors redeem it. Don *Alonzo*, the Eleventh of that Name, erected in the year 1341. a Junto conſiſting of a Preſident, who is called the *Apoſentador Major*, of ſix Apoſentadores of exerciſe, (becauſe ſome others may be admited into it if they are Veteranes,) of a Fiſcal, a Secretary, a Receiver, an Alguazil, and a Porter. This Junto preſerves His Majeſty's Rights, they take care likewiſe to lodge the Officers of the King's Houſhold.

The Council of the Chamber of Caſtile.

Queen *Joan* and *Charles* the Fifth her Son, erected this Council in the year 1518. The Preſident of *Caſtile* is the Chief Man of it, with four Councellors of the ſame Council, three Secretaries and a Reporter. They meet toward night on *Mundays* and *Wedneſdays* every week at the Preſidents Houſe, and give him an account of all the Poſts that are to be filled in the two *Caſtiles*.

They expedite all Remiſſions and deliver the Titles to Dukes, Marqueſſes, Counts, and the names of the Villages. They likewiſe look after all the Benefices, that are in the King's Preſentation, by the Apoſtolick Commiſſion.

The Junto de Boſques Reale.

Charles the Fifth eſtabliſhed it in the 1545: It conſiſts of two Councellors, an Alcalde, a Fiſcal and a Secretary. Their buſineſs is to look after the Palace, and the reſt of the King's Houſes as well in City as in Country, and likewiſe to take care of His Majeſty's Woods.

The Junto of the Millions.

Philip the Fourth obſerving that the Council *de Hazienda* was overcharged with buſineſs, in the year 1653. formed a Chamber compoſed of a Preſident, four Councellors of the Finances, four Commiſſaries Deputies of the States, a Fiſcal, and two Proctors of the Court. This Chamber is called the Tribunal of the Millions, becauſe here they receive the Revenue that ariſes from Impoſts upon Victuals, Oyl, Wine and Vinegar, and amounts to a Prodigious Summ.

The End of the Firſt Part.

MEMOIRS OF THE COURT OF SPAIN.

PART II.

ON the Feaſt of the Annunciation, the Young Q. went to the Monaſtery of the *Incarnation*. The *French* Ambaſſador's Lady accompanied her thither; but tho' ſhe never ſo earneſtly deſired to have an opportunity to entertain her in private, ſhe could not find one ſingle moment to do it; for the vigilant *Camarera* would not allow the Q. that Liberty. At her return, ſhe ſerved Nine Poor Women at Dinner, and gave each of

them a Suit of Apparel, and five Piſtols in their Purſe: The Maids of Honour carried the Diſhes; the Q. Mother performed the ſame Ceremony on her ſide. But what infinitely ſurprized the Q. was to find a Billet privately ſlipt into her Pocket, and thus Superſcribed:

For the QUEEN *Alone.*

At firſt ſhe was in doubt, whether ſhe ought to open it or no; but preſently after ſhe had a mind to carry it to the King: Nevertheleſs the uncertainty of what was contained in it, and after what manner the K. might take it, prevailed with her at laſt to open it. It ſeemed to be written in a diſguiſed ſort of an Hand, and contained theſe Words in *Spaniſh:*

The Supreme Elevation of your Majeſty, and the mighty difference that is between us, has not been able to efface that Paſſion which your admirable Qualities have infuſed into my Heart. I adore you, my Queen; I die in adoring you; and I dare ſay, that I am not unworthy to adore you: I ſee you, I ſigh after you; but you don't know my Sighs, you don't underſtand my ſecret Languiſhings; nay, you don't turn your Charming Eyes upon me. Ah, Madam, how unhappy am I to be born a Subject, who find my ſelf poſſeſſed with the Inclinations of the greateſt K. in the Univerſe.

The Queen continued ſome time ſurprized and aſtoniſhed: She could not imagine who this

this Raſh Perſon was, that had the hardineſs to write to her in theſe Terms; and did not queſtion, but that the Billet was ſlipt into her Pocket by one of the Poor Women whom ſhe had ſerved. But then it appear'd very ſtrange, that a Man, who ſeem'd to be of great Quality, would truſt his Life (for nothing leſs was hazarded) into the Hands of a poor needy Creature; for ſuch ſhe muſt be that could approach the Q. that day. It was true indeed, that ſhe had been amongſt the Religious Women of the *Incarnation*; but altho' ſome of them might undertake this buſineſs, yet there was little probability to believe it, by reaſon of the Conſequences that would have proved fatal to the Party concerned, if ever the matter came to be diſcovered. Sometimes ſhe thought, that perhaps it might be a Trick of the *Camarera Mayor*, to ſee what uſe ſhe made of this Billet, and then to acquaint the King with it, and turn the moſt Innocent thing in the world into a wrong ſenſe. After theſe different Reflections, at laſt ſhe judged it would be the ſafeſt way to diſcover the Matter to the Q. Mother, and follow her Advice. She went the next day to dine with her, and afterwards ſhew'd her the Letter, beſeeching her to keep it: That if the K. came to know any thing of the matter, ſhe would be ſo kind as to teſtifie the whole Truth. The Q. Mother ſeeing that ſhe was diſcompoſed at it, aſſured her, that it was not worth the while to torment her ſelf about it; and from whatever Hands the Letter came, if the King was diſquieted at it,

ſhe would take care to acquaint him with the Truth: ſo that the Queen left her more at eaſe than ſhe was before, by reaſon of this aſſurance. On this day the Q. arrived to her Eighteenth Year: She received the Compliments of all the Lords, and the Ladies made her Preſents, particularly the Q. Mother, who ſent her a Set of Diamonds and Turquoiſes. At Night there was a Conſort of *French* Muſick at the Palace.

It was much about this time that the Envoy of *Brandenburgh* parted from *Madrid*, complaining, and loudly threatning them with his Maſter's Reſentments. He came to receive ſeveral conſiderable Sums, which the Elector had ſent to the K. of *Spain*. They had amuſed him a long time with many tedious delays, but at laſt gave him an Aſſignation to receive fifty thouſand Crowns of the Silver that was daily expected from the *Indies*. When the *Flota* was arrived, he went to *Sevil*, but his Journey had no ſucceſs, becauſe they had ordered the Preſident of the * *Contration* at *Sevil*, to give him nothing. He came back to *Madrid* with all the Fury imaginable, to find himſelf treated with ſo little Reſpect: He renewed his Importunities; and they for their part renewed their Promiſes: At laſt he was ſo wearied with theſe continual Delays, whereby they ſtill put him off, that he demanded a poſitive Anſwer, and yet tarried longer than he had reſolved. But his Maſter be-

* *The* Contration *is a Council where they order all Affairs relating to the* Indies.

being informed of the whole Proceedings, ordered him to take his Audience of Leave. The Duke *de Medina Celi* would fain have ſtopt him, promiſing to pay down fifty thouſand Crowns in four Months: And perhaps the Envoy had ſtay'd in expectation of them, if he had not been otherwiſe ordered, altho' there was little probability, that he would have received ſatisfaction at the time appointed; and ſo he refuſed this Propoſal. Then they offered him thirty thouſand Crowns in hand. He was upon the point of accepting them, when he was given to underſtand, that this would be paid him no better than the reſt. This put him into a great Paſſion, which made him ſpeak ſo fiercely and freely to the Miniſters, that he did not ſpare them at all. He ſhew'd ſeveral Perſons a Letter from the Elector of *Brandenburgh*, which was full of Menaces, for the rude Treatment of his Envoy. The Night before he parted, they ſent him a Golden Chain worth a hundred and fifty Piſtols; but he returned it immediately back again to the Perſon who brought it to him from the King: The next day the ſame Chain was brought to him the ſecond time; but he ſent it back to the Chief Miniſter, and told him, He would rather ſay, he had loſt it upon the Road, than accept of a Preſent that was ſo unworthy of the Elector his Maſter.

On the other ſide, the Count *de Gubernatis*, Envoy from *Savoy*, ſeeing that all his Solicitations and Inſtances for four years laſt paſt, had not advanced his Negotiation, in the leaſt; and that all

the hopes they gave him of granting the ſame Honours to the Miniſters of the Duke of *Savoy*, as they received in *France*, were only dilatory Illuſions to amuſe him, without ever deſigning to perform them; he departed from *Madrid* in a great Fury, which was ſo much the greater, becauſe they refuſed to ſatisfie his Demands, in the payment of thoſe Subſidies that were due to his Maſter. Some of the other Envoys departed alſo with no leſs diſcontents; and as for thoſe that ſtay'd behind, they complained in their turns, of the Ill Uſage they had received. But Forreigners were not the only Perſons that were diſguſted the Subjects of the K. of *Spain* were little better uſed; and the Count *de Balbo*, with ſeveral *Milaneſe* Officers, returned to *Italy*, without being able to obtain what was due to them, or get the Recompence they demanded. It is indeed certain, that the King had no Funds, that the price of Victuals was not in the leaſt diminiſhed, that many poor Artiſans and Day-labourers died of Hunger, and that thoſe men who were ſuppoſed to be rich, had Billets often ſent to them to ſend their Money to ſuch and ſuch places, with great Menaces to Aſſaſſinate them, in caſe they failed.

Another Affair happened, upon which the Court had their Eyes fixt for a long time, and ſeveral Perſons of the higheſt Quality found themſelves Intereſted in it, by the means of the Prince *d' Stillano*, and the Count *de Monterey*. The firſt of theſe poſſeſs'd the place of Preſident of the Council of *Flanders* at *Madrid*;

drid; it was taken from him by *Don Juan* of *Auſtria*, and conferr'd upon the Count de *Monterey*, who had never taken poſſeſſion of it. The pretence they uſed to ſet by the Prince *de Stilland*, was a quarrel raiſed for the purpoſe. He had been baniſhed, but was afterwards informed under hand, that he might, if he pleaſed, come back to *Madrid*: ſo he fell into the Snare, and returned. The K. and *Don Juan* ſeemed to be very angry with him, becauſe he preſumed to come back, contrary to his Majeſty's Order; and therefore to puniſh him, they beſtow'd his place upon the Count *de Monterey*, who at that time commanded the Army in *Catalonia*; and after this uſage were ſo far from revoking his Sentence, that they baniſhed him to his old place. The firſt thing the Count did after he had been ſummoned to the Court, was to demand the Oath of his Office, and the K. promiſed to chuſe a convenient Opportuniiy to receive him: But the Q. Mother being informed of it by *Don Geronimo d' Eguya*, hindered the King from receiving the Oath of the Count *de Monterey*, becauſe ſhe had a kindneſs for the Prince *d' Stillano*, who was altogether devoted to her Service. The Affair continued in this condition, till the Duke *de Medina Celi* was advanced to the Miniſtry, who aſſembled a *Junto* at Cardinal *Portocarrero's* Palace, to examine the Reaſons of one ſide and t'other: The Cardinal preſided in it, and was aſſiſted by the King's and Queen-Mother's Confeſſors, by *Don Benedetto*, and by *Don Pedro Gil del Faro*: They gave the Prince

Prince *de Stillano* to underſtand, that ſince his Majeſty had diſpoſed of his Place in favour of the Count *de Monterey*, he had nothing left him to do, but only to ſubmit. To this the Prince anſwer'd, That by an ancient Law of *Caſtile*, the King could not take away his Place, without commencing a Proceſs againſt him. Upon this the *Junto* broke up, but at their ſecond Meeting concluded, That it was in the King's Power to diſpoſe of this Office, who having a great Inclination to the Count, had decided it in his advantage. Whilſt the Prince *de Stillano* continued thus outed, the Queen-Mother was ſenſibly concerned at the Injuſtice that was done to one of her principal Servants; and ſhe was perſwaded, as well as the reſt of her Family, that they could reproach him with nothing but his faithful adhering to that Princeſs. He ſtill perſiſted in his Demands to have his Tryal come on; That ſince they had taken away his Place from him, as from a Criminal, they ought to treat him as one, and puniſh him according to his Faults. All the Queen-Mother's Faction joyned in the ſame Complaints; but that did not hinder the Count *de Monterey* from continuing ſtill in his Place. It is true, that conſidering him Perſonally, he was more deſerving than the Prince *de Stillano*; that he had faithfully ſerved the King in *Flanders*, when he was Governour there, at a time when Affairs were in a ticklish condition. He is a well made agreeable Perſon, of great Abilities; and we ought to reckon amongſt his other good Qualities,

his

his Alliance with the Duke *de Medina Celi*; and this was no small consideration, at a time when the Duke did whatever he pleased at Court: For Example, he nominated his Brother to be Vice Roy of *Mexico*, which is a Post where they get a prodigious Wealth in a short time.

The President of the Council of *Castile*, received about this time a *Breve* from the Pope, whereby he was enjoyn'd to repair immediately to *Rome*, to give an account of his Behaviour towards the *Nuncio*; but they were of Opinion here, that he was not obliged to obey it. It was known at *Madrid*, that the Visitor General of the Kingdom of *Naples* had sent word to the Duke *de Saint-Angelo*, Dean of the Collateral Council, to depart out of *Naples* within three days, and to retire sixty Miles off. He obey'd this Injunction, after having taken his Leave of the Vice-Roy, and the most considerable Persons of the City; and afterwards went to *Gaette* with his whole Family. The Vice-Roy, who appeared in Favour of him, was very glad that the City of *Naples* had Writ to the King of *Spain* about him, with a great deal of Zeal and Affection. The Visitor General enraged at the Course they had taken, sent Orders immediately to the Duke *de Monte Sardo*, his Son in Law, to the Duke *della Regina*, his Nephew, and to all his other Relations, to be gone within an hour. The Duke *Della Regina* being a Magistrate of the City, pretended, that he could not be hindered from staying in it. He sum-

mon'd

mon'd his Friends together, and after he had repreſented to them the Injury that was done to himſelf in particular, he declared to them, that the Viſitor had a deſign to attack them too in general, as appeared by his ſevere examining the Conduct of the Princes and Barons of that Kingdom, although by their Priviledges they were exempted from it. 'Twas reſolved in this Aſſembly, to meet again the next day; and accordingly a great number of people came there. In ſhort, there came more than ſixty, who elected out of themſelves the Prince *Dotojano*, of the Houſe *de Medicis*, the Prince *de la Torella*, of the Houſe of *Caracciolis*, and the Duke *de Matalone*, of the Houſe *de Caraffa*: They went to find out the Vice-Roy, who voluntarily engaged to ſpeak to the Viſitor General; but he coldly told him, That he executed the Orders he had received from *Spain*. Hereupon the *Neapolitan* Lords were extreamly diſſatisfied, and ſeveral of them wiſhed, that they had ſome Chief or other to head them, who was capable of a great Reſolution.

For the better underſtanding of theſe *Memoirs*, I ought to acquaint the Reader, That the Ambaſſadors, and even the Envoys, had a certain Right at *Madrid*, which exempted them from paying any Toll at the City Gates, for thoſe things that were neceſſary for their Families. This Cuſtom had been obſerved time out of mind; but it being diſcovered, that ſome perſons had extended this Priviledge far-

farther than it ought to be, and that hereby the King ſuffered exceedingly in his Dues; the Council judged it expedient to convert it into a Sum of Money, which was in effect paid to the Forreign Miniſters, and the *Franquezas* (for ſo they call this Right) were aboliſhed. There was likewiſe another Priviledge, which is called *Immunidad del Barrio*; that is to ſay, the Ambaſſadors have a certain Precinct markt out about their Houſes, in which compaſs Juſtice is not to be performed without their permiſſion, and the *Alcaldes* dare not paſs in the Ambaſſador's Quarter with their White Rods, which is the Badge of their Authority. Every Ambaſſador is ſo jealous to preſerve this Priviledge, that ſome Forreign Miniſters have been ſo hardy as to hang the *Alguazils* at their Gates, when they found them treſpaſſing in this point. I muſt confeſs very few of them have carried things to this extremity, but ſeveral have ordered them to receive an hundred blows with a cudgel.

Notwithſtanding the apparent Riſque they ran, and the Conſequences that ſuch Infractions might carry, the *Corrigidor*, accompanied with his Officers, paſſed at mid-day through the Quarter belonging to our Ambaſſador: They carried with them their White Rods; but he not being informed of it till they were quite gone, could only ſend to the *Corrigidor* to tell him, that he was extreamly ſurprized at his procedure, and that for the time to come, he ſhould remember his Duty better. He anſwer'd, That he was ignorant, till he was now bet-

better informed, that the Ambaſſador's Quarter extended ſo far as the place through which he had paſſed; and that it was ſufficient he knew it now. But notwithſtanding this ſort of ſatisfaction, the very ſame *Corrigidor* a few days after came by that way again, and paſs'd before the Ambaſſador's Houſe at a time when he was abroad. The Marquiſs *de Villars* being informed of it, complained loudly of this Inſolence.

He expected with Impatience what would be the Reſult of the matter, when an Order from the King came to him, wherein his Majeſty revoked the Priviledges of his Quarter, pretending it was not juſt, that the Ambaſſador of *France* ſhould be more favourably treated at *Madrid*, than the Ambaſſador of *Spain* was at *Paris*. It was ſaid at Court, that in that great City the Officers of Juſtice went when they pleaſed up to the very Gates of the *Spaniſh* Ambaſſador, to perform the Functions of their reſpective Offices: That in the Year 1671. there was iſſued out a Declaration of the ſame Nature with this; that the renewing of it was no Novelty, and that ſince the firſt Declaration the Ambaſſadors had only enjoy'd this Priviledge by Sufferance, but that for the future they were reſolved to connive at it no more.

Monſieur *de Villars* anſwer'd, *That he owed too great a reſpect to the King, ever to remove himſelf from it: That he was aſſured the King his Maſter would approve of the Propoſal to treat their Ambaſſador, as they did his in* Spain: *but that they ought to conſider, what Priviledges*

that

that Miniſter has at the Court of France: *That it was not neceſſary there to demand Audience and Permiſſion, which always retard Affairs, in order to ſpeak to the King and Queen, to ſee them, and accompany them; that he went a hunting with the King; that he aſſiſted at Feaſts, and other Ceremonies, as often as he pleaſed; that he was allow'd to have Six Horſes to his Coach, and ſo to drive all about* Paris: *That the Ambaſſador's Lady went in the Queen's Coach; that ſhe ſometimes Dined with her, and that ſhe received ſeveral Marks of Diſtinction, all which ſerved to make an Embaſſy paſs very agreeable: That it ought to be conſidered, that he did not enjoy all theſe Advantages at* Madrid: *And laſtly, That he would take care to acquaint his Maſter with the Declaration of his Chriſtian Majeſty: That he could not have an Anſwer immediately, by reaſon of the great diſtance; and that it was but reaſonable and juſt, that things ſhould continue in the Old State, till it arrived.* But the King of *Spain* iſſu'd out a Second Declaration, wherein it was ſaid, That his Majeſty perſiſted in his firſt Reſolution, and that he thought fit to take away the Immunities of the *French* Ambaſſador's Quarter, without aſſigning any Cauſe.

'Tis indeed very ſurpriſing, that Monſieur *de Villars*, who had reaſon to promiſe himſelf very advantageous Diſtinctions upon the Queen's account, ſhould be the only man, who was ſingled out from the reſt of the Ambaſſadors, to have his Franchiſes taken away from him, whilſt the others enjoy'd theirs as formerly. He did not fail to ſend Advice to the Court

Court of *France* of what had happened; the King was ſenſibly concerned at his Ill Uſage, and promiſed to ſee Juſtice done to him. But *Monſieur* deſiring, that things might not be carried to Extremities, neither on one ſide nor the other, writ a Letter to the Queen his Daughter, wherein he ſignified to her his great Trouble and Inquietude about this Affair. He conjured her to uſe all her Intereſt with the King her Husband, to engage him to do his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty Juſtice. She was kept ignorant till this very moment, of what had paſſed, and was no leſs ſurprized than afflicted at it. She took occaſion to diſcourſe the King about it at a favourable Juncture, as ſhe imagined; but he anſwer'd her coldly enough, That it was a long time a-go ſince this Affair had been regulated, and that he would diſpenſe with himſelf for telling her the Reaſons. She earneſtly importuned him to acquaint her with them; and after infinite Sollcitations, he could only be brought to reply as follows:

Eſque me quiteram eſte Embaxador, y me embiaram otro Gavacho. Which ſignifies in our Language; *Let them take away this Ambaſſador from me, and ſend me another in his room.*

It is eaſie to judge, that the King ſpeaking in thoſe Terms, was not only prejudiced againſt the Marqueſs *de Villars*, but alſo againſt any other that might be ſent to him. Whatſoever Intreaties the Queen made to oblige him to ſettle matters in the Eſtate they were formerly, yet he continued ſtill inflexible, and ſeem'd

ſeem'd indeed to act in this Affair rather by another Spirit than his own, without making any Reflection, either he or his Council, that *France* would reſent the Injury. But they awaked out of their Lethargy, when they ſaw an Extraordinary Courier arrive on the 8*th* of *April* to the Marqueſs *de Villars*'s Houſe. They had terrible apprehenſions upon them, that he brought a Declaration of War along with him; and the Suſpicions they had entertain'd a long time from the ſide of *Italy*, ſenſibly alarm'd them. Our Ambaſſador had Audience of the Duke *de Medina Celi*, to demand the Re eſtabliſhment of his Franchiſes, and the Juriſdiction of his Quarter. *He repreſented to him the hardſhip of his Uſage, and the little reaſon they had to treat him after this manner, and to choſe him from amongſt the reſt to be affronted: That the King his Maſter was never the Aggreſſor, but that he would not tamely ſuffer an Injury, without revenging it: That particularly he was ſenſible of this, and demanded publick ſatisfaction for it.*

The Duke alledged, as he had done before, *That ever ſince the Year* 1671. *the King of* Spain *was reſolved not to grant the Franchiſes to the Ambaſſadors any longer, but that the Relaxation which time cauſes in every thing, was the reaſon that the Forreign Miniſters by little and little recovered their former Rights; That this was no good Conſequence, why it ſhould take place of the Law, and for a Teſtimony that they had no intention to diſguſt him in this particular, he might reſt aſſured, that for the time to come, all the*

other

other Ambassadors should be treated after the same manner.

To this the Marquess *de Villars* made Answer, *That instead of finding any particular Satisfaction for himself, he met with a new Subject of Complaint, upon the score of this General Conduct; That since the new Alliance that was contracted between the Two Crowns, the Natural Right warranted him to expect that the Ambassadors of one would easily merit Favours of the other, and even procure them for their Friends; that he was so far from meeting that Usage, that he could get nothing for them but affronts; but that this was not the thing he demanded. That as for the Declaration of 1671. he was not obliged to take the least notice of it, since having been Ambassador at* Madrid, *near four years a-go, he peaceably enjoy'd all those Privileges, which now they designed to retrench him of, under the pretence of that Declaration.*

He was not content with discoursing the Chief Minister about this Affair, but demanded Audience of the King, and immediately obtained it. So he presented to him his Letters of Credence, to have this Affair regulated, and said every thing that was necessary to engage him to make necessary Reflections upon a thing that might draw after it such evil Consequences. *He reminded him of the Peace that was so lately sworn, and of the Marriage he had contracted with a Princess of the Blood of* France, *and told him what little occasion he had to disgust the most Christian King; That in truth, his Master believed he did not act by his own Inclinations,*

and

and that upon this Consideration he was disposed to receive the Satisfaction he had so much reason to promise himself on his part.

The King of *Spain* only answered with * *Veremos*, according to his usual Custom. * *We will see.*

After this, it was deliberated in Council, what was necessary to be done in the business: The Council gave their Advice to the Chief Minister, and he to the King, as is the way in *Spain*. At last a Resolution was taken up, that the Marquess *de Los Balbazes*, who had been named to go Commissary to the Ambassador in *France*, should give him Satisfaction. In pursuance to this Order, he went to the Palace of the Marquess *de Villars*, and presented to him a Paper that was signed, wherein was represented in terms full of Amity and Respect, *That the King of* Spain *had given necessary Orders to his Ambassador, to give that Answer and Satisfaction to his most Christian Majesty, which he had demanded in his Letter; and that he came to assure him, That the King his Master had so great a regard to all the Motives of Friendship that united their Majesties, that he would still continue the Ambassador of* France *in all the Priviledges and Immunities of his Quarter; and that he should likewise have the Right of the Franchises paid to him; That if he had them not till this present, it was only occasioned by his own neglect to demand them; and that the King had never any designs to take them away from him.*

It is a thing seldom practised in other Courts to begin Actions of this Nature, unless they

have had an important occaſion to do it, and afterwards to abandon them with an Eaſineſs, which may in ſome meaſure be attributed to their great Weakneſs; but there are ſome places where this Conduct is more in Requeſt than others, and the Court of *Spain* is one of them. Some perſons were even perſwaded, that this deſign of taking away the Ambaſſador's Priviledges, was executed by the Miniſters, only out of a Principle of Revenge, becauſe our King had ſent word to the Duke *de Giovenazzo*, that he was willing to give him at his Court all the Advantages that belonged to the Character of the Ambaſſador of *Spain*, wherewith he was inveſted; but that he had no Intention to leave him thoſe Liberties which he allowed to others. And he had a particular Reaſon to obſerve this Conduct with him; for it is very well known, that when he was in the Quality of Envoy at the Court of *Savoy*, he had buſied himſelf, without any provocation, to put them upon the Deſign of burning the Veſſels of *Toulon*, and the Magazines of *Pignerol*: So that the King having very juſt Reaſons to look upon him as a particular Enemy, it was Natural enough to deny him thoſe Favours that are allowed to thoſe Perſons for whom we have an Eſteem. However it was, if the Court of *Spain* was at the bottom mortified at this matter, they took care not to make it appear; and to take away from our King an Ambaſſador who was by no means agreeable to him, they immediately named the Marqueſs *de la Fuente*

to

to go and ſupply his Place. The Queen was extremely ſatisfied to ſee the buſineſs of the Franchiſes terminate as ſhe deſired.

The King, who loved her tenderly, notwithſtanding all thoſe ſecret Enemies that did her ill Services with him, knowing that one of her greateſt Diverſions was to ride a hunting, ordered Three fine Horſes to be brought to her from *Andaluſia*. She choſe one of the moſt mettleſome, and mounted him; but ſhe was no ſooner got upon his back, but he began to caper, and was very like to have thrown himſelf backwards upon her, when ſhe fell: One of her Feet unluckily happened to hang in the Stirrup, and the Horſe finding this Embarras, ran about very furiouſly, and dragged the poor Queen after him, to the extream peril of her Life. This Accident happen'd in the Court of the Palace. The King beholding her from a Balcony, was brought to the laſt Deſpair; And though the Court was full of Perſons of Quality, and the Guards, yet no one durſt offer to go and help the Queen, becauſe it is not lawful for any body to touch her, and eſpecially by the Feet, unleſs it be the Chief of her *Menins*, or Pages, who puts on her Chiopins: Theſe are a ſort of Sandals, into which the Ladies put their Shooes, and make them appear very tall. The Queen always ſupports her ſelf upon one of her *Menins*, when ſhe walks any where; but theſe were Children too ſmall to reſcue her from the danger wherein ſhe was. At laſt, Two *Spaniſh* Knights, one of whom was named *Don Louis*

de las Torres, and the other *Don Jaime de Soto-Mayor*, reſolved, whatever might happen, to deliver her: So one of them caught hold of the Horſe by the Bridle, and ſtopt him; the other took hold immediately of the Queen's Foot, took it out of the Stirrup, and put one of his fingers out of Joynt in doing her this piece of Service: But without tarrying a moment, away they went to their Houſes, and preſently ordered their Horſes to be ſadled, to eſcape the King's Indignation. The Young Count *de Pennaranda*, who was a Friend to both of them, approached the Queen, and told her very reſpectfully, That thoſe Gentlemen who had been ſo happy as to ſave her Life, were yet in fear of loſing their own. She had the Goodneſs to ſpeak to the King in their favour, becauſe, as I mentioned before, no body was permitted to touch her, and particularly by the Feet. The King, who came down immediately, to ſee in what a condition ſhe was, teſtified an extraordinary Joy to find ſhe was not hurt, and very kindly received the Requeſt ſhe made in behalf of theſe Generous Criminals. Word was immediately ſent to them, who by this time were got on Horſe-back to ſave themſelves: The Queen honoured them with a Preſent, and ever after had a particular Conſideration for them.

A few days after this Accident had befallen the Young Queen, ſhe received a ſmall diſguſt from the King upon this occaſion: She had a very pretty Spaniel with her, and the little Creature uſed to lie with her a Nights. The

Queen

Queen happening to miſs her one Night, got out of her Bed, and groped up and down the Room for her; the King too finding the Queen was not in Bed, got up likewiſe to find her. Behold them now in the midſt of a great Chamber, without any Light, going on one ſide and t'other, and rubbing their Shins againſt every thing they met; At laſt, the King being impatient, asked the Queen, Why ſhe got up? the Queen anſwered him, To ſearch for her Spaniel: *And is it worth the while,* ſaid he, *for a King and Queen of* Spain *to riſe out of their Beds, to find a little pitiful Bitch?* Being thus vexed, he ſpurned the poor creature with his Foot, as ſhe came againſt his Legs, and was like to kill it. At the Crys ſhe made, the Queen, who loved the Bitch, could not forbear to complain in a ſweet manner, and came to bed again very ſorrowful; but neither the King nor ſhe were able to find it again; and they were forced to call up the Queen's Women to bring them a Light. The next Morning the King went out very early a hunting all alone, without ſaying a word to the Queen. This diſquieted her all day long, and ſhe paſt the greateſt part of it leaning upon the Windows of her Chamber, although the Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova* frequently diſturbed her, and told her, *That a Queen of* Spain *ought not to look out at a Window.* All that day ſhe impatiently expected the King's return, and as ſoon as ever he lighted from his Horſe, met him about half the Stair-Caſe, and threw her ſelf about his Neck, with that agreeable *French* Liberty,

which she had not yet forgotten: He was perfectly charmed at it, and could not forbear to embrace her often, altho it is not the Custom in that Country, where their way of saluting the Ladies, is to press their Arms with their Hands. He was in so good a humour, that she obtained leave for the Duke *de Ossone*, to come back to Court, and execute his Place of Great Master of the Horse.

The *Junta*, that was erected to determine the Affair between the *Nuncio*, and *Don Juan de la Puente y Guebarra*, President of the Council of *Castile*, decided it on the 12*th* of *April*. He was sentenced to be banished, and turned out of his Office. The *Nuncio* demanded of them, that they would oblige him to go to *Rome*, to take off the Suspension he had incurred; but they thought they had punished him sufficiently. Abundance of people said, That these great Names he took upon him, did not belong to him; and that his true Name was *Don Juan de Montesillo*, and that he was barely a Gentleman of the Province of *Castile*. He finished the Course of his Studies at *Salamania*, and afterwards was made Canon of *Toledo*. His Behaviour mightily pleased the Archbishop of *Toledo*, who was at that time Cardinal of *Arragon*, and taking a delight in his Conversation, trusted him with the Management of all his Affairs. He acquitted himself so well in this Station, that the Archbishop took care to recommend, and make him known to *Don Juan* of *Austria*, whom he extreamly pleased by the Suppleness

neſs of his Carriage, and the Vivacity of his *Genius*; And whether that Prince had any particular Deſigns upon him, or only intended to prefer him, to acquit himſelf of the Promiſe he had made to the Cardinal, he made him Preſident of the Chancery of *Valladolid*. Some time after the Count *de Villambroſa*, who was Preſident of *Caſtile*, happening to die, the Prince gave his Place to *Don Juan de la Puente*. To ſay the truth, he only executed that Office by a Commiſſion; but it was a very great Poſt, and could not fail to draw the Envy of ſeveral Perſons upon him: And ſo it really did; for few people were concerned at his Misfortunes: They looked upon him as one of the Creatures of *Don Juan*; and thoſe that were always looking out for an Object for their Hatred, when that Prince was gone, vented all their Spleen and Indignation upon him. The people accuſed him of all their Grievances, and pretended, that he was the Cauſe of crying down the Money; That being in a Place which rendered Chief of Juſtice and the Civil Government, he might, if he had been ſo minded, have found out ſome way or other to relieve ſo many different Perſons, that ſuffered according to their Condition. But the Complaints of private Men, nay, even thoſe of the Publick in general, could not have been able to hurt him, if there had not been a neceſſity at that Juncture, to oblige the Pope, by reaſon of the Apprehenſions they had of the Deſigns of the moſt Chriſtian King upon *Italy*.

Although the Office of the Preſident of *Caſtile* is the next in Dignity to that of the Chief Miniſter, yet all People have not an equal deſire to poſſeſs it. *Don Juan Aſcenſio*, Biſhop of *Avila*, whom the King nominated to it, refuſed it: An Order was ſent to him, to come immediately, but he deſired the Duke *de Medina Celi* to excuſe him, and leave him in his Dioceſs. He had formerly been a Religious of the *Mercy*, and General of his Order: However, as it is a hard matter to reſiſt the Will of one's Prince, eſpecially when it happens to be ſo advantageous as this was, he obey'd the Second Order that was ſent him, and came without any delay. He was a Perſon of great Diſcretion; and 'tis certain a Man cannot have too much to qualifie him for the Exerciſe of ſo conſiderable a Place: for the Council of *Caſtile* regulates all the Affairs that reſpect the Government of the States of *Caſtile*: it was firſt created in the Year 1245. by St. *Ferdinand*, King of *Caſtile*; it is compoſed of a Preſident and ſixteen Counſellors; The Preſident never makes any Viſits, and at his Houſe gives the Right Hand to no body. They ſummon to this Council the Chanceries of *Granada* and *Vailladolid*, and the Courts of Judicature of *Sevil* and *Gallicia*, which are the Four Seats of Juſtice, where they determine, by way of Appeal, all the Suits that are judged by the *Corrigidors* in the Cities, and by the *Alcades* in the Villages: When the King ſpeaks of the Council of *Caſtile*, he barely calls it *Our Council.*

The

The Court was exceedingly troubled at the Advices they received, That the Vice-Roy of *Naples*, having with no ſmall pains, heaped together the Sum of two hundred thouſand Crowns, part of which he had borrowed to ſend to *Piombino*, *Portolongone*, *Orbitelle*, and ſome other places which the King of *Spain* poſſeſſes on the Coaſts of *Tuſcany*; the Money being embarked in a *Felouque*, Eight Slaves found the opportunity to carry off the Veſſel: Two ſmall Veſſels and a Gally were ſent after them to bring them back, but they were gone too far to be recovered: So all the pains of the Marqueſs *de Los-Velez*, tended only to ſet Eight Slaves at liberty, and enrich them for the remainder of their Lives.

The Ambaſſador of *Venice* ſeeing that he of *France* received Satisfaction upon the occaſion of the Franchiſes and Immunities, redoubled his Inſtances to have Juſtice done him upon the *Alguazils*, who had killed two of his Attendants. He received Satisfaction on the 17*th* of *April*. The *Alcalde* who led them on was baniſhed, and the *Alguazils* were ſent to Priſon, and were not enlarged but by his Intreaty.

If the Count *de Monterey* was ſenſibly affected with Joy, to be preferr'd to the Prince *de Aſtillano*, as to the Preſidentſhip of *Flanders*, he was not a little diſguſted to ſee ſeveral Perſons made Counſellors of State before him; and notwithſtanding he earneſtly deſired to be one of the number, he was diſappointed. The King named the Duke *de Albuquerque* General

at

at Sea, the Count *Doropeſa*, who was very Young, and had no other Dignity as yet, the Marqueſs *de Los Velez* Governour of *Naples*, the Duke *de Villa Hermoſa* Governour of *Flanders*, *Don Melchior Navarra*, who had been formerly Vice-Chancellor of *Arragon*, the Marqueſs *de Manſera Mayor*, *Domo Major* to the Q. Mother, and the Inquiſitor General, to be Members of this Council. It was commonly believed that the Q. Mother had a great influence in naming moſt of theſe Lords. The Council of State was inſtituted by *Charles* the Fifth in 1526. Here it is that they examine the Merits and Services of thoſe Perſons that pretend to be made Vice-Roys, or to poſſeſs any other great Employments: They regulate the moſt important Affairs of the Monarchy; the King only is the Preſident of it, and the number of the Counſellors is not fixed.

Moſt People were ſurprized, that *Don Carlos Ramirez de Arrellano*, was made Preſident of the *Finances*, on the 8*th* of *April*, after he had been ſo long chained and ſhut up for his Lunacy and Madneſs: He was choſen in the room of *Don Antonio de Monſalve*. No body could imagine for what Reaſon the Duke *de Medina Celi* thought fit to truſt him with a Poſt of that Conſequence; for he had none of thoſe Qualities that are neceſſary to make a Man capable of diſcharging it well; nay, he had ſome that ought to have excluded him. Amongſt the reſt, he was Son-in-Law to a *Corrigidor*, named *Don Franciſco de Herrera*, who was mortally hated by the People; and 'tis ſaid,

ſaid, not without juſt Grounds, ſince he contributed not a little to the extream Miſeries under which they groaned. The Council of *Finances*, which is there called *de Hazienda*, was eſtabliſhed in the Year 1602. by *Philip* III. It is their buſineſs to inſpect the Tribunal, which is called the *Contaduria Mayor*, and was ſet up by *Philip* the Second in 1574.

A certain Accident happened at Court, which I cannot forbear to relate, although it is of little Conſequence. The Queen had two of the prettieſt Parrots in the World, which ſhe had brought along with her from *France*, and loved mightily: The Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova* thought to do a meritorious work in killing them, becauſe they could only talk *French*. One day when the Queen was gone out to take a Walk, and the Dutcheſs, to avoid going with her, and to put this Deſign in Execution, had pretended a ſlight Indiſpoſition; ſhe demanded the Parrots of the Woman that looked after them, and ſo without any more a-do, as ſoon as ever ſhe had got them into her Hands, wrung off their Necks, in ſpight of all the Prayers and Intreaties that were uſed to prevent her from killing them. This was a great Affliction to the poor *French* Women that waited upon the Queen, who when ſhe came back to her Apartment, commanded them to bring her Parrots and Dogs, as her cuſtom was always when the King was not there: for he could not endure any of theſe little creatures, becauſe they came from *France*; and whenever

ever he ſaw them, he cry'd, *Fuera, fuera, Perros Frances*; that is to ſay, *Out, out, you* French *Dogs*. All the Queen's Women, inſtead of going to fetch what ſhe demanded, ſtared upon one another, and continued for ſome time immoveable, without daring to ſpeak a word; but at laſt, after a long ſilence, one of them gave her an account of the Execution which the *Camarera* had made of them. She was extreamly concerned, although ſhe took care not to diſcover it; but as ſoon as the Dutcheſs entred the Room, and according to her cuſtom, came to kiſs her Hand: The Queen, without ſpeaking a Syllable to her, gave her two Boxes on the Ear with her Hand. Never was any thing in the World in ſuch a Rage and Surprize as the Dutcheſs was; for ſhe was one of the moſt haughty imperious Women living, and carried as much State and Grandeur: She poſſeſſed, as I mentioned before, a Kingdom in *Mexico*, and now to be buffeted by a young Queen, whom ſhe had hitherto treated like a Child; this appeared inſupportable; ſhe immediately flew out of the Room, ſaying all the impertinent things that her Anger ſuggeſted to her, and aſſembled together her Relations and Friends, and above four hundred Ladies: With this numerous Train of Coaches, ſhe came to the King's Apartment, to demand Juſtice of him for the Affront ſhe pretended ſhe had received from the Queen: She made ſo great a Clamour, and ſhed ſo many Tears, that he ſent for the Queen to come to him: And as he repreſented to her the high

Rank

Rank which the *Camarera Mayor* held in the World, the Queen interrupted him, and told him, without any heſitation, *Senor, eſto es une antojo.*

Theſe few unexpected Words clearly changed the Face of Affairs; The King embraced her with a thouſand Teſtimonies of Joy, adding, That ſhe had done very well; and that if Two Blows were not enough to ſatisfie her, he conſented ſhe ſhould give the Dutcheſs Two Dozen more. Now *antojo* ſignifies in the *Spaniſh* Tongue, *the Longing of a Woman with Child*: And they are it ſeems convinced by long Experience, That if Women with Child in that Country have not what they deſire, and don't do what they have a mind to do, they are delivered before their time of a dead Infant. The King, who believed the Queen was with Child, was raviſhed with Joy; and though he had a mighty kindneſs for the Dutcheſs, yet he exceedingly approved of the Queen's Action: So that all the Satisfaction ſhe received from him was this, *Cailla os, eſtas bofetadas ſon hii as del antojo*; That is to ſay, *Hold your peace, theſe Blows are the Fruits of a Woman with Child.* The Queen had ſo much Prudence and Addreſs, as not to take the leaſt notice of the Death of her Parrots: So that ſhe left the King no Room to imagine, that the *antojo* of boxing the Old Dutcheſs proceeded from her own Reſentments.

The Marqueſs *de Villa Menrique* obtain'd the Vice-Royſhip of *Peru*, which is one of the moſt conſiderable Poſts, by the means of a pretty La-

dy,

dy, of whom the Duke *de Medina Celi* was extreamly enamoured.

The King, the Queen, and the Queen-Mother, went together to *Buen-Retiro* to paſs the Holy Week there. After *Eaſter* was over, the King expreſſed a great deſire to go to *Aranjuez*, as it had always been the cuſtom: But the Queen-Mother, who had no Inclinations to be at any great diſtance from *Madrid*, becauſe all Affairs were managed there, and the Counſellors never ſtir out of it; and likewiſe becauſe the Neighbourhood of *Toledo*, where ſhe had been formerly confined againſt her Will, revived a ſort of Horror in her, raiſed ſo many Obſtacles, that the King alter'd his Mind: So he ſtay'd but a very inconſiderable time at *Buen-Retiro*, and paſſed four days at the *Eſcurial*. He would only ſuffer himſelf to be accompanied by the Duke *de Medina Celi*, the Maſter of the Horſe, one of the Gentlemen of his Bed-Chamber, and the *Major domo*. The next day after he was arrived, the Queen wrote a very tender Letter to him, and ſent him a Diamond Ring. He ſent her, by way of return, a Chaplet made of the Wood of *Calambour*, garniſhed with Diamonds, in a little Box of Gold Filagreen, wherein he incloſed a Billet that had only theſe Words, *Madam, there has been a great Wind; I have killed ſix Wolves.*

As ſoon as he returned to *Madrid*, the deſire of going to *Aranjuez*, ſeized him again. By a cuſtom that had been eſtabliſhed ever ſince the time of *Philip* II. the Kings of *Spain* were uſed to go to this Noble Houſe ſome time after

E-

Eaſter. This is appointed in the *Ceremonial* of the Palace, which is a Rule they always follow: In it are to be found all the Ceremonies that are to be obſerved, the Habits which the Kings and Queens are to wear, the Time of their going to their Royal Houſes, how long they are to continue there; the Days of going to Chappel, as alſo thoſe for Bull Feaſts, and running at the Ring, the Hour of their Majeſties going to Bed, and Riſing, and a thouſand other things of the ſame Nature. But, as it happen'd, there was ſo great a ſcarcity of Money, that the King was obliged to ſtay at *Madrid*: However, to excuſe and colour ſo extraordinary a thing, they gave out, that the Small Pox was at *Aranjuez*, which being ſituated upon the Road to *Malaga*, where the Plague raged, and from whence it might eaſily be ſpread thither, his Majeſty was not willing to hazard himſelf ſo far as to venture thither.

The Court was troubled at the Advices they received on the firſt of *May*, That the Fiſhermen of *Fontarabia* and thoſe of *Andaye*, had been lately engaged in a Quarrel about the Fiſhery of the River *Bidaſſoa*, which ſeparates the two Kingdoms. They fought, and ſeveral Men were killed on both ſides; but what concerned them the moſt, was, that the Governour of *Fontarabia*, inſtead of ſending to part them, play'd the Cannon upon the *French*, and demoliſhed ſome Houſes in *Andaye*: So that to prevent the Conſequences, which might perhaps have proved very dangerous, they com-

commanded him to repair the Houſes that were battered, and give the *French* Fiſhermen all the Satisfaction they deſired. Our Ambaſſador aſſured them, that he would write to his Maſter, and acquaint him with what readineſs and complaiſance this Affair was made up at Court.

The Duke *de Medina Celi* offer'd to make the Marqueſs *de Villa Franca* Counſellor of State, provided he would quit his Place of Lieutenant General of the *Mediterranean*, which the King had a mind to beſtow upon Prince *Alexander Farneſe*: but he returned him this Anſwer, *That having Reaſon to flatter himſelf, that he had diſcharged this Office well, he could never be prevailed with to throw it up to another, as long as he was capable of doing the Duties of it himſelf.*

The King's Confeſſor was upon the point of being ſent away about the beginning of *May*. The Duke *de Medina Celi* deſigned that place for Father *Bayona*, Confeſſor of the Univerſity of *Alcala*; for he imagined he might reckon upon him, and beſide, the King had given his conſent. They had a mind to beſtow the Biſhoprick of *Plazencia* upon Father *Francis de Relux*, to have a favourable pretence to remove him: But he uſed all the Intereſt and Credit he had in the World to keep his old Poſt, declaring, That he would refuſe the Biſhoprick; and that if the King turned him off, he would every where complain of the Chief Miniſter. Although the Duke *de Medina Celi* hated him heartily, becauſe he was difficult of

Ac-

Acceſs, and having a great Aſcendant over the King, poſſeſs'd him with ſeveral Scruples, in order to purſue his own particular Views; yet he was forced to let him alone. Every one is of Opinion, that the Duke had done much more diſcreetly, not to have diſcovered his Intentions againſt him, unleſs he had been in a capacity to put them in Execution, becauſe to ſhew an ill Will, and not be able to effect our Deſigns, only draws more Enemies upon our heads, and expoſes us to the contempt of all the World, which will be apt to conclude we only are too weak. But this was not all; he left in the Perſon of the Confeſſor a Man that was always with the King, and who was ſure to oppoſe him in every thing; but that was not the only thing he had Reaſon to apprehend. The *Camarera Mayor*, and *Don Jeronimo de Eguya*, ſtill continued to poſſeſs the King's Favours; They had opportunity to diſcourſe him as often as they pleaſed, by vertue of their Places, and neglected no occaſions to advance and ſecure their own Intereſt. This was a ſort of a *Triumvirate*, which might very well check the Authority of the Chief Miniſter; he very well ſaw what he was to fear from this quarter, and was extreamly concerned at it; he had long a-go deſired to remove *de Eguya*, but he fixed himſelf every day more and more in the King's good Graces; and the the Death of *Don Pedro Fernandez del Campo*, left him in the intire poſſeſſion of a Place, which before he had only exerciſed by a Commiſſion. He likewiſe obtained a Place of be-

ing a Counſellor in the Chamber of the *Indies*; and when the Duke uſed all his Endeavours to remove him from buſineſs, he perceived, that the King's inclination prevailed above all his Attempts to the contrary; for his Majeſty was perſwaded, that *de Eguya* was faithful and neceſſary to him. The Dutcheſs *de Terra Novo*, as well as the Confeſſor, confirmed him in this Opinion: So that they rendred one another all good Offices reciprocally; and this was a ſure and eaſie way to ſupport themſelves.

Ever ſince the Night that the *Camarera Moyor* had received that Chaſtiſement from the Queen, after a long conſideration of the matter, ſhe found, that if ſhe continu'd to obſerve the ſame rigorous Conduct towards that young Princeſs, which ſhe had hitherto uſed, ſhe could never inſinuate her ſelf into her Affections. Beſides this, ſhe knew that the Queen-Mother utterly diſapproved this ſort of Treatment, and that ſhe had frequently ſpoke to the King her Son about it; that ſhe had repreſented to him, that there was ſo vaſt a difference between the Cuſtoms of *France* and thoſe of *Spain*, that there was a neceſſity to make ſome Allowances, and not to perplex a Young Princeſs, whoſe Age, as well as the Sweetneſs of her Temper, deſerved another ſort of Uſage. The *Camarera* looked upon her ſelf as undone, if ſhe did not lay aſide all her former Severity; and theſe conſiderations prevailed with her to aſſume a more engaging Air, and to endeavour to relieve the Queen in all her penſive moments, by diſcovering the King's Hu-

Humour to her, and the means to please him. Whenever the King was vext, and out of Humour, she seemed to spare no pains to sweeten him; and the Queen being of a frank, easie Disposition, was immediately perswaded, that the Dutchess had taken up a better Temper, and even believed, that she did her all the Services she could. But the rest of the World were of a different Opinion from her Majesty; they knew well enough that this Old *Belldame* was rather inclined in her own Nature, to throw Oil into the fire, than endeavour to quench it; and they alledged, as an indisputable Proof of this, all the ill impressions she had made upon the King, in relation to the *French*; nay, even the most inconsiderable things that came from *France*: For, as I signified before, the Queen durst not play with the little Dogs she had brought along with her, before the King; and the two Parrots were killed for no other reason but because they talked *French*: The King was out of humour as oft as any *Frenchman* passed through the Court of the Palace, especially if the Queen looked upon him, although it was through the Windows and Lattices of her Chamber.

As she was going one day to *Datcha*, a poor fellow, who was a *Frenchman*, came to her Coach, and begged an Alms of her; the King was in so horrible a Passion, that they were afraid he would have caused this Unfortunate Wretch to be killed immediately. The *Camarera* officiously counsell'd the Queen to order him to leave *Madrid*

without any delay; but if the Dutchess had not prejudiced the King after this manner, it is not to be imagined that the Queen had been exposed to these Injuries, which happened so often to her.

This is so undeniable a truth, that one day when their Majesties went into the City, two Gentlemen belonging to the Ambassador of *Holland*, chancing to meet them, they stopt their Coach, out of Respect, and saluted them as they ought: They were on that side the Queen happened to be of, and were apparelled after the *French* Fashion. This immediately raised the *Camarera's* Passion, who commanded one of the Guards to go and demand of them who they were, from whence they came, whither they were going, what business they had in *Madrid*? And when to this they answered, That they were both *Hollanders* in the Ambassador's Retinue, she believed it to be a Sham, or at least pretended to believe it, that she might give the King a fresh occasion to commend her Care and Zeal for him; so that she sent to the Ambassador himself to be better satisfied; and when she was fully assured of the truth, she sent the two Gentlemen word, That when they met their Majesties, they should never be guilty of the Presumption any more to go on the Queen's side, to salute her, or look upon her. Nevertheless, observing the Queen to be concerned at this Conduct, as soon as she was informed of it, she thought to efface all this out of her Mind, by sending often to the *French* Ambassador,

ſador, and giving him to underſtand, that ſhe was angry with him for coming ſo ſeldom to the Palace. She uſed the ſame Expreſſions to the Ambaſſador's Lady, and told her, That it would be the greateſt Joy in the World to her to ſee them viſit the young Queen oftner, who perhaps was too melancholy in private, and would certainly find no ſmall Diverſion to enjoy the Company of Perſons of their Merit, and who were of the ſame Country with her. This did not make the Marquels *de Villars* alter his Conduct in the leaſt; for he underſtood well enough what was the meaning of theſe fair Speeches; but as for his Lady, there ſeldom paſſed a day but ſhe went to wait upon the Queen, either in the Queen-Mother's company, or all alone by her ſelf; but notwithſtanding the Aſſiduity of her Viſits, ſhe ſeldom found an opportunity to entertain her in private: She was hindered from doing this, by the preſence of the *Spaniſh* Ladies, who came to make their Court; or elſe by the King's coming, who went every other moment from his own Apartment to the Queen's; for 'tis the Cuſtom there, that as ſoon as he appears, all the Women that are in the Chamber do immediately withdraw.

Without reckoning the Pennance of this extraordinary Solitude, the Queen had other things to afflict her, and one was to find her ſelf clearly deſtitute of Money; and this, conſidering the Generoſity of her Heart, and her natural Inclination to be liberal, was a very ſenſible Mortification. She had lived there ſix

Months intire, without having any Money to ſerve her for her leſſer pleaſures; and ſhe was forced to borrow a little, to buy a few things ſhe had a neceſſary occaſion for, and to keep a few Horſes ſhe had brought with her out of *France*, that were become altogether unſerviceable to her, becauſe ſhe had no permiſſion to ride them out at any time. She wanted Money likewiſe to ſend back ſome of her Women that could not comply with the Cuſtoms of *Spain*, and whom they could not conſequently endure there. The few Officers that ſhe was allowed to bring with her, were all diſmiſt, even to her Chyrurgeon, who had bought the Place, and performed the Journey at his own Expences. All of them departed; and this conſideration redoubled the young Queen's Afflictions, to ſee ſhe was not Miſtriſs enough to keep them any longer, or to do them thoſe kindneſſes ſhe deſigned. On the 15*th* of *May* 500 Piſtols a Month were aſſigned her; but this was in a manner leſs than nothing, becauſe for ſix Months together ſhe had been forced to borrow Money, and even out of this ſmall Sum ſhe was obliged to lay aſide 200 Piſtols monthly for ſome Alms and Charity, which the Queens of *Spain* were accuſtomed to make. All this while no Orders were given out about the Currant Money of the Kingdom, nor was the Price of Victuals regulated; a great Want and Scarcity reigned every where, and the Publick Miſeries daily increaſed; it had not rained for ſix Months together, and this very much contributed to inhance the Price of Corn: So that the People

were

were reduced to the laſt Extremities: Nay, what is infinitely more ſurpriſing, they were not in a condition to pay the Queen the Money that was aſſigned to her, Gold and Silver being ſo ſcarce, that none of it was to be ſeen.

The Biſhop of *Aquila* being arrived at *Madrid*, took poſſeſſion of his Place of Preſident of *Caſtile*; and the firſt of his Cares was to relieve and eaſe the People of their Grievances To effect this, he made a ſtrict Examination into the moſt minute matters, and ſoon diſcovered, that the groſs Monopolies, and inſatiable Avarice of the Magiſtrates, were partly the occaſion of theſe horrid Diſorders. He came to be informed, That even the Counſellors of the Council Royal, by ſome of their Creatures, took their ſhares of the Impoſts that were laid upon Victuals; and that the ſame thing was done in the Oil, Chocolate, Coals, and other Proviſions neceſſary for Life: That the *Regidors* and *Corregidors* belonging to the Town-Hall, play'd moſt abominable Cheats in the Corn, and conſequently advanced the Price of Bread, at leaſt one half above its uſual Price. But he was ſenſible that he was not able to rectifie theſe Abuſes alone; ſo he diſcourſed the Duke *de Medina Celi* about the matter, whoſe Encouragement and Aſſiſtance he promiſed himſelf. Nevertheleſs, whether the Duke were otherwiſe employed, or had no real intentions to change the Form of the Government, he did not anſwer the Preſident's Deſires, who perceiving that if he acted by

himſelf, the hatred of all thoſe Perſons, whom he ſhould cauſe to be puniſhed, would directly fall upon his own Head, he was not willing to Sacrifice himſelf for the Publick Good. He remembred that in the time of the Regency, a certain Biſhop, who was Preſident as he was, having endeavoured to ſuppreſs theſe Abuſes, had been poiſoned by the Magiſtrates.

In the mean time every thing without exception continued to be as dear as formerly, and Silver was ſo ſcarce a Commodity, that one would have imagined it had been all melted down; I once ſaw at a Relation's Houſe of mine the Sum of almoſt three thouſand Crowns received in Pieces of *Bellon* and in *Ochavos* *, which are a wretched ſort of Braſs Money, and for the greateſt part bad, and yet happy was the Man who in this Univerſal Scarcity could get this Money. However I am obliged to ſay this in honour of *Spain*, that altho the Finances were in that ſad condition as I repreſented them before, yet the King paid all the Penſions that were due to Foreigners very exactly, becauſe he looked upon himſelf obliged in Honour to do it, and yet to confeſs a truth, ſome of theſe Penſions were not inconſiderable. I knew a certain Lady, to whom he gave Eight Thouſand Crowns, and they were conſtantly paid her in the moſt difficult times.

* Theſe are much of the ſame value with the *French* Doubles, and are ſcarce an *Engliſh* Farthing.

The

The Families that were ready to die of Hunger, ſet themſelves to Rob and Murder, being in a manner Authorized in theſe Diſorders, by the little care that was taken to puniſh Murderers as they deſerved, and by the extraordinary Partiality which the Judges ſhew to the Natives of the Country. Theſe Families, I ſay, that were very numerous at *Madrid*, aſſembled together in one of the leaſt frequented Quarters of the Town, and reſolved by main force to break open ſome of the Magiſtrates Houſes, becauſe they principally charged them with the Diſorders of the preſent Affairs, and afterwards to Plunder them in the face of the World, to ſerve for an Example to others. But as this Deſign was only formed by a Mutinous Rabble, who had never a Head to lead them on, ſo it is not to be wondred if they did not puſh their wicked Intentions any farther. In ſhort, every Man returned to his ordinary Occupation, and none of them were called to an Account for Aſſembling after this Tumultuous manner. Behold now the Effects which this ſort of Connivance and Toleration always produces.

The Shoemakers being informed about the middle of *May*, that that the Price of Shoes was orderd to be regulated, preſented a Petition to the new Preſident of *Caſtile*, wherein with terms full of Reſpect they repreſented their Reaſons againſt this Regulation, making it appear, that they could not poſſibly leſſen the Price of Shoes, as long as Leather was ſold ſo dear as it was. He ſent them to the

Preſi-

Preſident of the Chamber of the *Alcaldes*; ſo they formed themſelves into a ſort of a Body, to meet him with the greater Ceremony: but he being a Man of a ſour ſullen Humour, fell into a Paſſion to ſee ſo great a number of them; he threatned to Impriſon them, and told them, that if their Power were equal to their ill Intentions, they were to be feared, becauſe they were neither better nor worſe than down-right Mutineers. They muttered a few words, and being at that time none of the ſtrongeſt, went in a Body to find out their Companions and Friends, and then immediately repaired to the Court of the Palace. They ran under the Windows of the King's Chamber, and, as it is the Cuſtom there when the People complain of the Government, they cried out as loud as they were able, *Let the King live, and let the ill Government die.* As ſoon as the King perceived it, he came near the Window, and was extreamly ſurprized to ſee ſo great a Rabble got together, for by this time abundance of other People had joyned them. The King ſent in great haſt to find out the Preſident of *Caſtile*, who came amongſt them, and promiſed them all the ſatisfaction imaginable: He moreover told them, they violated that Reſpect they owed His Majeſty, in coming to demand Juſtice of him with ſuch Clamours and Tumults, and that if they would follow him home, he would preſently content them. They very readily went along with him, ſo he gave them a permiſſion to ſell their Shoes at the ſame Price as they did before

fore the Order was publiſhed. This made them return the joyfulleſt People in the World, but they happened to meet the Preſident of the *Alcaldes* in the way, who not knowing a Syllable of what had paſt, and not at all conſidering that he had to do with an unruly Mob, ſtopt them to vent his Reproaches and Menaces againſt them. But this procedure raiſed their Indignation ſo high, that they drew out their Swords with a deſign to kill him, and purſued him ſo fiercely, that never was any Man under more terrible Apprehenſions. He had never eſcaped their hands, had not their Fury ſo far tranſported them, that they took no notice how he ſaved himſelf through a little Gate, which he took care to ſhut after him, but his fear was ſo great, that he fell dangerouſly ill upon it. After they had ſearched for him on all ſides, to no purpoſe, they were going homewards, when they ſaw the Preſident of *Caſtile* coming that way; they preſently ſurrounded him, and ſwore they would not let him paſs any farther, till he had ſigned the Permiſſion he had given them to ſell their Shoes at the ordinary Price. He immediately did every thing they demanded of him; ſo without any delay they took Drums and Trumpets to publiſh and affix this Permiſſion to all the Publick places of the City. They ſuffered this firſt Heat to paſs over without Oppoſition, but afterwards they arreſted ſeveral of thoſe whom they found the moſt Seditious; nevertheleſs they tarried but a ſhort time in Priſon, and what deſerved an Exemplary Chaſtiſe-

ſtiſement, was puniſhed like an inconſiderable Trifle. It is indeed very true, that in order to humble the People, it was propoſed to forbid all manner of Tradeſmen to carry Swords about them, and to wear black Silk Cloathes with the *Golilia*. 'Twas likewiſe deſigned that that this Prohibition ſhould extend to all thoſe Perſons who had no Titles, and were not able to keep a Coach: However they durſt not put it in execution, becauſe they thought this Regulation would be too difficult and ſevere to be practiſed.

The Vice-Roy of *Naples* was not a little afflicted at the loſs of the Money which the eight Slaves had carried away with them. He was obliged to get more, but it was no eaſie matter to find it in a place, where they were burthen'd every day with Impoſts upon Impoſts. He received Orders from *Madrid* to Let out the Lands belonging to the King's Demain at forty thouſand Crowns *per Annum*; but no body could be found to take them, although thoſe Perſons, who had formerly taken them, enjoy'd them peaceably; and this Example one would have thought ought to have encouraged others to imitate them. The *Banditti* of that Country had for ſome time ſuſpended all Acts of Hoſtility, out of hopes that His Majeſty would have given them a General Indemnity upon the ſcore of his Marriage; but when they perceived that their Expectations were like to be fruſtrated, and that endeavours were uſed to Apprehend their Captain *Mattheo Tango*, who was juſt come

from

from Pirateering at Sea, they met to the number of Three Thouſand, pillaging and ravaging every thing they found in the Country, and, what is ſtrange, not a word was ſpoken of the horrible Diſorders they committed.

The Queen-Mother who was every day at *Buen Retiro*, and ſearched all means to gain the Affections of the People, gave three Comedies, with Muſick between the Acts, that were repreſented on a Theatre in the *Placa Mayor*, that abundance of People might have the pleaſure of ſeeing them without putting them to any Expence. The Comedians play'd for three days together, and the crowd was ſo great, that ſome People were killed. The City ſeemed to be very well pleaſed with theſe Shews, for they love them more in *Spain* than in any other part of the World; and what helped to ſuſtain the publick Joy, was the mighty expectation they had of ſeeing a new face of Affairs, under the Miniſtry of the Duke *de Medina-Celi*: they promiſed themſelves to find an end of all their preſent Grievances, without conſidering that although his intentions were never ſo good, it would be a difficult matter to redreſs them. He had *Don Vincente Gonzaga* for his Friend, who was very capable to adviſe him and furniſh him with all neceſſary Expedients to accompliſh his Deſigns, but the execution of them ſeemed to carry almoſt invincible difficulties along with it. There was a neceſſity to be ſevere, to diſguſt ſome, and puniſh others; to remove ſeveral things that had been long eſtabliſhed,

to

to give ones ſelf up entirely to Buſineſs, and conſtant Application, before theſe matters could ever be accompliſhed: But this was not the Genius of the Duke, and his Natural Sweetneſs and Bounty ſuited but very ill with that ſteadineſs and reſolution that ought to be obſerved in theſe nice ran-counters. This gave him abundance of uneaſie thoughts, ſo that *Don Vincente*, who ſtill preſt him to take up ſteady Meaſures, and ſupport them with vigour, had opportunity enough to diſcover his Weakneſs. To deliver himſelf therefore from ſo rigid and ſevere a Superviſor, the Duke gave him the Government (as 'tis called there) of the Council of the *Indies*, upon Condition that he himſelf ſhould always be the Preſident of it; but as for the Profits, one had as great a ſhare as the other. And now *Don Vincente* thought of nothing more than diſcharging the Duties of his New Place, and it was not doubted but he would worthily exerciſe them; for his Judgment, his Age, and his Experience made him to be conſidered as one of the Chief Perſons of the Council.

In the mean time ſeveral People of great Merit and Birth were diſpleaſed to ſee the Duke confided in him no longer, they were in hopes that they would have joyned together to Regulate the Money. The good was diminiſhed, as I ſaid before, and the bad continued to go as freely as formerly it did. It was therefore reſolved to ſuppreſs it for good and all in Commerce, and an Edict was publiſhed on the 24th. of *May* 1680. by which the King ſuppreſſed all

the

the Copper Money that had gone for ſeveral Years, and People were ordered to bring it in within Ten Days to certain Offices that were ſet up in all parts of *Madrid*, where they were to receive Bills of Exchange for it, that were payable in Six Months. But they found a vaſt inconvenience in the Execution of this Project; for in the two *Caſtiles* they had ſixteen Millions of this Money, part of which were mixed with good Silver, and the other was notoriouſly bad. So that to draw theſe ſixteen Millions out of the hands of private Perſons, they found in the King's Coffers a Fund of only ſixſcore thouſand Crowns: however, this did not hinder the crying down of the Money; and as for thoſe Perſons that had ſtore of it, they were utterly undone. It is an eaſie matter to imagine what ſad Effects theſe new Grievances drew upon the People, who were miſerable enough in all conſcience before, and who were forced to buy every thing at exceſſive Rates.

The Miniſters of the Inquiſition, with their Trumpets, Kettle-Drums and Banner marching before them, went on the 30*th* of *May* in a Cavalcade, from the Palace to the *Place Major*, where they ordered it to be publiſhed, That on the 30*th* of *June*, they would publickly puniſh all thoſe whom they had condemned to the fire and other torments. It was forty years a-go, ſince a thing of this nature had been ſeen; and the Sight was expected at *Madrid* with as great an impatience,

as

as if it had been the moſt agreeable Feſtival in the World.

Don Thomas de la Cerda, Brother to the Duke *de Medina-Celi*, parted for *Cales*, with ſo magnificent an Equipage, that a Prince of the Blood could not have a finer. Three Men of War waited to carry him over to *New Spain*, of which he was made Vice-Roy.

They received Advices at Court, That the Count *de Fuenſalida*, Vice-Roy of *Navar*, had ſent ſome Troops to *Fontarabia*, under the Command of the Duke *de Canzano*. This Conduct did not ſeem to agree with the Orders they had ſent him from this place, to give Satisfaction to the *French* Fiſhermen of *Andaye*, who had been abuſed and injured.

On the 16*th* of *June* a Bull-Feaſt was kept, at which the King and the Queen, attended by all the Court, made their Appearance. This ſeemed an extraordinary fine Show to the *Spaniards*, becauſe two of the Combatants were killed upon the Spot, and three Cavaliers more were dangerouſly wounded. The Queen was ſo concerned at it, that ſhe found her ſelf ſomewhat diſcompoſed; however, ſhe took care not to diſcover it, for fear of diſquieting the King.

The Count *de Gubernatis*, Envoy Extraordinary of *Savoy*, waited for his Orders to depart, but he received a command to attend the Marqueſs *de Dronero*, who went Ambaſſador Extraordinary into *Portugal*. So he tarried at Court without any Character.

We were here informed, that the *Spaniſh* Captains, who were at *Naples*, were not a little mortified at the Prohibition that was iſſued out to forbid them to go dreſt after the *French* Faſhion. There is never a *Spaniard* of 'em all that is not raviſhed with Joy, as ſoon as he is out of his own Country, to quit the Habit of it alſo, and to oblige them to wear it again, nothing leſs will ſerve the Turn but re-iterated Edicts one upon the back of another.

The execrable Secret of preparing the moſt ſubtle Poyſon, that is ſo frequently practiſed in *Italy*, has been uſed from time to time in the Kingdom of *Naples*. The Regent *Galeota*, who came back from *Gaeta*, made a ſad Experiment of it, in a Doſe of Phyſick, which diſpatched him in a few hours after: The Vice-Roy of *Naples*, who loved him dearly, expreſt a mighty ſorrow at his Loſs, and promiſed, that if ever he was able to diſcover the Crime, he would make a notorious Example of thoſe that were concerned in it.

On the 30*th* of *June* there was kept at *Madrid* an *Auto de Inquiſition*; That is to ſay, a general Execution of the *Jews*. The People ran thither in their beſt Cloaths, and with as great an earneſtneſs as if it had been to the moſt ſolemn ſhow. A great Scaffold was erected in the *Place Mayor*, where from Seven a Clock in the Morning till Nine at Night, nothing was to be ſeen but Criminals of both Sexes, that had been ſent from all the *Inquiſitions* to *Madrid*: Their Proceſs was read aloud, and

Judgment was pronounced against them: Twenty *Jews*, as well Men as Women, and a *Renegado Mahometan*, were sentenced to be burnt: Five more *Jews* of both Sexes, this being the first time they were apprehended, and now repenting of their Errors, were condemned to a long Imprisonment, and to wear a Yellow Scapulary, with a Red St. *Andrew's* Cross upon it, which they call a *Sanbenito*, as those that carry this Habit are called *Sanbenitados*. Ten more accused of *Bigamy*, *Witchcraft* and *Sorcery*, were sentenced to be whipt, and sent to the Gallies: These wore Past-board Bonnets upon their Heads, with Inscriptions upon them, having a Rope about their Necks, and Torches in their Hands. All the Court was present, the King, the two Queens, the Ladies, the Ambassadors, the Grandees, and a great multitude of People. The Inquisitor's Chair was placed after the manner of a Tribunal, and was much above that of the King, and a great deal higher. These Unfortunate People were persecuted so near the King, that he heard all their Complaints and Groans; for the Scaffold where they were ranged touched his Balcony. The Grandees of *Spain* did the same thing here as our Provost-Marshal's Men do in *France*, they conducted the Criminals that were to be burnt, and held them tied fast with thick Cords: The *Familiares*; that is to say, the Domestick Officers of the *Holy Inquisition*, at the same time led the other Offenders, and several of the Religious, whether Learned or Ignorant, disputed vehemently

with

with them, to convince these miserable Creatures of the Truth of our Religion. Some of the *Jews* were very knowing in their own way of Worship, and returned very surprizing Answers to their Disputants. Amongst the rest, there was a young Woman, of admirable Beauty, who seemed not to be above Seventeen Years of Age, and happening to be on the same side where the Queen was, she addressed her self to her, to obtain Favour at her Hands: *Great Queen,* says she, *cannot your Royal Presence bring some Remedy to my Misfortunes? Have pity on my Youth, and consider that I am persecuted for a Religion which I have sucked in with my Mother's Milk.* The Queen turned away her Eyes, and appear'd to pity her case, but durst not make any intercession to have her saved.

Mass was now began, in the midst of which the Priest that officiated, quitted the Altar, and sate down upon a Seat which was prepared for him; then the Inquisitor General descended from the Amphitheater, drest in his Cope, and having a Mitre on his Head; and after he had bowed towards the Altar, he advanced to the King's Balcony, which he ascended by some Steps that went round the Scaffold, accompanied by some Officers of the Inquisition, who carried the Cross, and the Evangelists, and a Book containing the Oath, by which the Kings of *Spain* oblige themselves to protect the Catholick Faith, to extirpate Heresies, and to support the Procedures of the *Inquisition* with their Royal Authority.

The King ſtood up, with his Head uncovered, and having the Conſtable of *Caſtile* on one ſide of him, who held the Royal Sword lifted up, ſwore to obſerve the Oath, which a Counſellor of the Council Royal read to him, and continued in this poſture till ſuch time as the Inquiſitor was returned to his Place. Then a Secretary of the Inquiſition got up in a Pulpit, and read the ſame Oath, which he cauſed the Councils, and all the Aſſembly to take. It was about Noon when Maſs began, and it was not over till Nine a clock at Night, by reaſon of the long Sentences of the condemned Perſons, that were read aloud one after another. The Conſtancy and Reſolution with which they went to the place of Puniſhment, had ſomething in it which was very extraordinary; ſeveral of them caſt themſelves into the fire, others burnt their Hands, and afterwards their Feet in the Flames, bearing their Torments with a Tranquillity which made them be lamented, that ſuch reſolute Souls were not illuminated with the Light of Faith. As for my ſelf, I did not go to behold this ſad Spectacle; for beſides that it was mid-night, and the place of Execution was without the Gate of *Fuencaral*, I was ſo concerned at what I had ſeen in the day-time, that I found my ſelf indiſpoſed. The King could not avoid ſeeing this horrible ſight, both becauſe it was a Religious Affair, and becauſe he is obliged to authorize by his Preſence whatever the Inquiſition does. We muſt not believe that theſe rigorous Examples do in the leaſt promote the Con-

Converſion of the *Jews*; they are not at all concerned at it, and there are a conſiderable number of them in *Madrid*, who are known to be ſuch, and yet are quietly ſuffered to enjoy their Employments in the *Finances*. Amongſt theſe *Don Aventura Dionis* was reckoned: His Father gave Seventy thouſand Crowns to be made a Knight of St. *Jago*, and he himſelf a few days after this Execution, obtained of the King a Marqueſs's Title, which ſtood him in Fifty thouſand Crowns. His Uncle was one of the moſt Famous *Jews* of *Amſterdam*: All this was known at Court, but there was not the leaſt notice taken of it; and indeed the General Receipts and Farms are full of theſe People. When they are rich, the *Spaniards* content themſelves with affrighting them, that they may make them empty their Purſes to redeem their Lives. By this means they draw prodigious Sums of Money from them, and provided they are in a condition to pay a good round Sum, they make a ſhift to eſcape the Fire, which they deſerve as well as the reſt.

The Duke *de Giovenazzo*, who from being Envoy at the Court of *Savoy*, was nominated to go Ambaſſador to that of *France*, was ordered to return to *Turin*. But the Count *de Gubernatis*, who at that time was under no Character at *Madrid*, and who was making Prepatations for his Journey to *Portugal*, went to find out the Chief Miniſter, and repreſented to him, *That the Duke his Maſter was ſo ill ſatisfied, to ſee that his Miniſters were not treated in*

Spain with the same Respect as they were in France, and especially because they did not pay him those great Sums that were due to him, that he desired to see an Envoy of Spain no more at Turin. The Duke de Medina Celi answered him, That whatever Treatment was paid his Master in France ought not to be used as a Consequence for the King of Spain to do the like, who was so far above all other Kings, that he had no Example to follow. The Count replied, That he had no mind at present to enter into an Examination of their Greatness, or the difference that might be between them; but that he had not forgotten, that about Twenty Years ago Philip IV. had declared, by the Marquis de la Fuente, That his Ambassador should not appear at the Ceremonies where those of France assisted; and that this Declaration was very well known, and accordingly regulated in all the Courts of Europe. The Duke answered him, That he knew nothing of the matter, and that he could hardly believe the business was as he represented it. In the mean time, they made several Reflections at Court upon the Proposals of the Duke of *Savoy*; and *Don Antonio de la Cerda*, who had been nominated to go to *Turin*, was recalled home before he arrived there. Nevertheless, they dispensed with themselves so far, as to send to compliment the Duke, upon the Alliance he was going to make with the *Infanta* of *Portugal*.

This Princess, as it was commonly pretended, was supposed to be poysoned; and what made the World judge so, was, because one of her Officers having carried some of the

Dishes

Diſhes from her Table to his own Houſe, his Wife, and ſome others, after they had eat of them, found themſelves extreamly ill, that they believed they ſhould die, and had all of them Marks of poyſon about them. This Accident occaſioned a great buſtle at *Lisbon*; the People mutinied, and wanting an Object for their Fury to work upon, they deſigned to pick a quarrel with the *Spaniſh* Envoy, although they had no Reaſon for it, and he was juſt upon the point of ſuffering the greateſt Outrages imaginable. The *Portugueſes* had afterwards a new occaſion to grieve them, cauſed by the Death of *Don Duarte Ribero*, who was ſent Ambaſſador to *Savoy*. He happened to die in the Territories of *Spain*, after ſo violent and ſudden a manner, that all the World was aſtoniſhed at it; and this ſerved to increaſe the Suſpicions they formerly entertained of the evil intentions of ſome perſons, in relation to the *Infanta*.

A little time appeaſed all theſe Clamours, and the Count *de Gubernatis* departed towards the end of *June* to go for *Portugal*.

On the 22*d* of the ſame Month, the Marqueſs *de Grana*, Ambaſſador from the Emperour, made his Entry. All his Retinue were barely cloathed in Gray, and his Coaches had no Gilding about them. Moſt People were ſurpriſed at the ſight; and to ſay the truth, this was not the right way to pleaſe in *Madrid*; for there they ſhew them more or leſs Reſpect, according to the Expences they are at in theſe ſorts of occaſions. To this we may add, that the

the People there love fine Shows above any thing in the World, and it being known, that the Ambaſſador had received twenty five thouſand Crowns to defray the Charges of his Journey, and that he drew every Year from the Emperour and the King forty thouſand Crowns more, they were ready to throw Stones at him, when they ſaw him make ſo ſcandalous an Entry. *Don Diego de Bracamonte*, Ambaſſador of *Malta*, was the Reaſon why he made his Entry no ſooner. He was ſtill of Opinion, that they had not done him Juſtice, when the Marqueſs *de Villars* made his Entry, but that as ſoon as ever he renewed his Pretenſions, he ſhould have Satisfaction given him. Being under theſe Expectations, he demanded that his Chariot might march immediately after that of the laſt Ambaſſador of the Chappel; the Marqueſs *de Grana* would by no means conſent to it, alledging what had been formerly done by the Ambaſſador of *France*, and ſo that Example was followed. This ſmall difference was ſcarce determined, when the Marqueſs *de Grana* had another Conteſt with *Don Geronimo d' Eguya*; he would have had him make the firſt Viſit, as the other Secretaries of State had always done before him. *D' Eguya* excuſed himſelf, by pretending, that all the other Ambaſſadors has come firſt to viſit him, and that he lay under no Obligations to make any particular Diſtinctions for the ſake of Monſieur *de Grana*. Upon this, the other Ambaſſadors taking notice what ill Advantage he had made of the

Ci-

Civility they shew'd him, unanimously declared, that they never pretended to make that Visit, as if it had been a Duty incumbent upon them; so that *d' Eguya* was not a little mortified at a Declaration so contrary to his Vanity and Pretensions, and found himself now under an indispensable necessity to go first to the Ambassador of *Germany*.

He tarried till the Court was gone to the *Escurial*, and took his Opportunity to go to his House on a certain day, when he knew he was not at home: But this did not satisfie the Marquess, who said, he reckoned that Visit for nothing, which he had not received: *D' Eguya* answered, That he had acquitted himself of his Duty; and thus they did not see one another at all. The Embassador Extraordinary of *Malta* made his Entry, which tho' it made no Magnificent Appearance, was handsomly ordered.

It was no small satisfaction to them at Court to hear, that the Flota for the *Indies*, which they believed would scarce be in a condition to go this Year, by reason that the great Disorder of the currant Money had not a little hindred all manner of Commerce, had set Sail out of the Port of *Cales*, and made a Happy Voyage with the Brother of the Duke *de Medina-Celi*, who went Vice-Roy to *New Spain*: But to allay their Joy, they were informed, that one of the greater Vessels had struck against a Rock in the middle of the Bay, and received so much damage, that springing a Leak on every side, they had not time

time enough to bring her off to any place where they might unload and repair her, ſo that ſhe was loſt with ſome of her Paſſengers, and all her Merchandize.

The Duke of *Medina-Celi* not being abſolutely aſſured to continue Chief Miniſter long, thought it the beſt way to make all Advantages of the preſent Opportunity. He had nine Daughters, but had only married two of them, and had a great mind to beſtow the third upon the Son of the Conſtable *Colonna*, who was newly returned to *Madrid* from his his Vice-Royſhip of *Arragon*, and had brought his Children along with him. This appeared to be a very Advantageous Match for the Duke's Daughter, and therefore having it ſtill in his Eye, he ſhewed a particular Reſpect to the Marqueſs *de los Balbazez*, who was Brother-in-law to the Conſtable. Few Perſons penetrated at firſt into the true Motive of the thing; they thought he did it only to have a fit Occaſion to take his Inſtructions, becauſe he was capable of giving him the beſt: but the more underſtanding People ſoon diſcovered that the great deſire he had to conclude this Alliance, was the principal Reaſon; for at the bottom the Marqueſs *de los Balbazes* had more Reputation at the time when his Embaſſies and great Negotiations kept him at a diſtance, than when he was at *Madrid*. Whether it proceeded from the Envy the World bore him, or that his Preſence made them examine his Faults more narrowly, it is certain that People had a better Opinion of him when

he

he was abſent, than when they ſaw him before them. The good Graces of the Duke ſtill contributed to draw more Hatred and Envy upon him, but they did not laſt long enough to make him ſuffer any thing upon that Account.

One of the greateſt things they uſually reproached *Balbazez* with, was his exceſſive Avarice which buſied it ſelf in the moſt inconſiderable matters, altho he was Maſter of a plentiful Fortune, and might have lived after another manner, without incommoding his Eſtate in the leaſt. He was a *Genoeſe*, of the Houſe of *Spinola*; his Grandfather had formerly commanded the *Spaniſh* Army, and this was likewiſe a great Captain; but whether it were becauſe he was a Stranger, or for ſome other Reaſon, the Grandees of *Spain* looked upon him as much inferiour to them, although he was a Grandee as well as themſelves, and was of illuſtrious Birth. They deſpiſed him, becauſe he made Advantage of his Money, after the manner of a Banker, which is ſo ſeldom practiſed in *Spain* by Perſons of Quality, that they cannot endure thoſe that do it. His Enemies pretended, that he had committed notorious Overſights at the Treaty of *Nimeguen*, and that they daily beheld new Inconveniences ariſe from his ill Conduct there; That this was the Subject of perpetual quarrels between *France* and *Spain*, becauſe he had neglected to lay down in plain intelligible terms, what things were yielded up, and their Dependances, and that every one made uſe of this

this Obſcurity to interpret it to their own Advantage.

It is certain, that what they alledged againſt the Marqueſs *de Los Balbazes*, had foundation enough, but the Conſtable of *Caſtile* was the Man that took the greateſt pains to expoſe his Miſcarriages to the World. He had no kindneſs for him for *Don Juan*'s ſake, whoſe Favourite he had always been, and for which Reaſon the Marqueſs declared againſt the Queen. This was the true Cauſe of the Averſion that was between the Conſtable and him, and it increaſed very much on the ſide of the former, when he ſaw what a Reſpect and Eſteem the Duke *de Medina Celi* teſtified for the other. He needed no more than this to revive the Old Grudge he had againſt the Chief Miniſter, and it proceeded ſo far, that he inceſſantly heighten'd the Complaints that came from all parts, under the Dominion of the King of *Spain*, againſt the Duke. It muſt be allowed, that the Conſtable was one of the moſt dexterous prudent Men of his Age, and that his Rank and great Abilities gave him vaſt Advantages over the reſt; ſo that whenever he gave his Advice, few People were found ſo hardy as to oppoſe him. The Duke was ſenſible, that he directly thwarted him upon all occaſions: This, together with his other Affairs, made him extreamly uneaſie, to find himſelf perpetually engaged in a troubleſome Combat, and to diſpute againſt a Man, who, as we may ſay, took a Pleaſure in chafing himſelf, and who ſearched all occaſions to perplex

and

and diſguſt him. Therefore in this Affair the Duke took the mildeſt courſe; he courted the Conſtable's Friendſhip, and made all Advances towards it: He knew that he was fall'n ill, and that though he was not in a condition to go to the Council, he was not ſo much indiſpoſed, but that he might his have Advice, in caſe it were demanded.

He ſent conſtantly to the Conſtable's Houſe to conſult him upon all important occaſions, and this mark of diſtinction flatter'd his Vanity ſo agreeably, that he found himſelf mightily obliged to the Duke. He wanted very little of pretending to be always ſick for the time to come, as long as the Duke continued to give him ſo evident a Proof of Deference: However, 'tis very certain, that although he was as well as ever, he would not ſtir abroad for a long time, only to prolong a thing which filled him with ſo much Pleaſure and Satisfaction. He received another Obligation from the Duke, which made no leſs an Impreſſion upon him; a conſiderable Benefice happening to be vacant, he beſtow'd it immediately upon one of his Natural Sons, without the Conſtable's ever demanding it. So many unexpected Favours perfectly overcame him, and made him deſirous to do ſomething on his ſide; ſo he propoſed to ſubmit to a Reference, in order to accommodate the buſineſs of the Duke *de Cardonne's* Succeſſion. The Conſtable had eſpouſed his Widow, and the Duke his Daughter: Theſe Two Ladies had great Pretenſions, and as great Differences; there-

therefore they thought it the best way to determine them by the mutual consent of both Parties: The Duke was sensible, that the Constable, who naturally loved long tedious Law-Suits, shew'd a great deal of Complaisance in this matter, and indeed the Constable was of Opinion, that it would be better to put an end to this Affair, than be engaged in an everlasting Contest with the Chief Minister.

This Chief Minister often assisted the King, and denied Audience to no body; but neither did his Endeavours or Audiences produce any advantageous Effects for the publick Interest, and the smallest Affairs were as difficult for him to determine as the greatest. The Marquess *de Grana* knew so well before hand what he was to expect upon this score, that he could not be brought to accept the Embassy for *Spain*, till he received express Orders from the Emperour, although for his farther Encouragement, he had several Relations and Friends at *Madrid*, and that besides his having resided there formerly, the consideration of those Favours he might reasonably expect for his Master's sake, ought to have overcome the unwillingness he expressed to come to this Court. It is true, what served to increase it very much, was the secret Advantage which he thought his Enemies, and those that envied him, might have upon him, during his Absence from *Vienna*. But for all this he found he had reason enough to be content with the manner of his usage, the King allow'd him a double Franchise, and paid all the Charges of

his

his Houſe at his Arrival: The Two Queens honoured the Marchioneſs *de Grana*, and her Daughters, with ſeveral Preſents; they favoured him in every thing, yet nevertheleſs he could not forbear to ſay proudly, that he hoped he ſhould not tarry there above a year, and that it ſhould not be his Fault, if he did not depart ſooner. He was a fine Gentleman, had abundance of Wit, Penetration and Conduct; but he was of a prodigious bigneſs, and found himſelf mightily incommoded by it: He ſometimes could not help changing his Countenance, when he happen'd to be in Company with People whom he was not well acquainted with, when they looked ſtedfaſtly upon him. The Court of *Spain* had ſuch favourable Inclinations for him, that they readily granted him whatever he deſired; but they could not forbear now and then to promiſe him ſome things which they never performed, and he himſelf was ſenſible that they never would. He was frequently vexed upon theſe Occaſions, ſaying, That it was his Misfortune not to know what he might depend upon: He was concerned at the Miſery to which all ſorts of People were reduced at *Madrid*, and I have heard him frequently ſay, That whatever Idea's a Man might form to himſelf of the Publick Grievances, yet they infinitely fell ſhort of what they really were, when he came to ſee them, and that for his part, he could not imagine what Remedies they could apply to them. It is indeed true, that Funds were wanting for the moſt neceſſary

Er-

Exigencies, and that they were forced to borrow five thouſand Piſtols for the Subſiſtence of ſome Troops that they thought convenient to ſend to *Italy*, and the Frontiers of *Biſcay*, by reaſon of the Apprehenſions they had at Court of the Deſigns of our King. I have heard it often ſaid, That the Couriers could not go, for want of Money to defray the Expences of their Journey, although they had Affairs of great Conſequence to diſpatch; and the Marqueſs *de Los Balbazez*, who knew this better than any body, repreſented to the Duke *de Medina Celi*, that there was a perfect neceſſity to take full Cognizance of the Funds, upon which they might depend for the time to come. The Duke reliſhing this Propoſal, ordered a true Scheme of the King's Revenues to be brought before him: But the Preſident of the *Finances*, and ſome others, after they had deliberated, as their Faſhion was, upon the matter, that is, with a regard only to their own proper Intereſts, anſwered all with one Conſent, That what he demanded of them was the Work of ſeveral Years. This Anſwer was ſufficient to make him abandon the Undertaking; for the Duke never cared to engage himſelf in any buſineſs that was of long continuance; nay, he had ſcarce Reſolution enough to go through thoſe things which he was obliged ſuddenly to begin, and as ſoon to finiſh. One of the beſt Examples I can produce to juſtifie this, is his leaving the *Camarera Major*, *Don Geronimo de Eguya*, and the Confeſſor, quietly to enjoy their Places, without

en-

endeavouring to remove them, whether it were becauſe he deſpiſed them, or that he imagined them to be too powerful to attempt any thing againſt them. The Weakneſs which he ſhew'd in that Rancounter, ſerved only to increaſe their Courage and Haughtineſs; and they went ſo far at laſt, as not to fear him at all: They poſſeſſed the King with a ſtrong Averſion to him, and inſinuated ſeveral things into him that were quite oppoſite to the Duke's Intentions. He was well enough ſenſible of it, but his natural inſenſibility hindered him from reſenting it: His Gentleneſs rend'red him contemptible both to one and the other, but particularly to the Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova*, who ſpoke often to the King about him, and explained her ſelf upon her conſtant Chapter, the Duke, in ſuch bitter Language, that he being informed of it, as he certainly was, every body had Reaſon to wonder how he was able to endure it.

This ill-natur'd old Beldame had only a ſeeming, and not a real Kindneſs for the Young Queen, and it laſted ſo ſhort a time, that her uſage ſerved only to make the Queen ſenſible, that ſhe knew how to moderate her ſelf well enough, when ſhe ſaw it was neceſſary for her intereſt ſo to do. But as this was indeed a true conſtraint upon her Nature, and ſhe could not counterfeit the leaſt ſweetneſs of Temper, without a great Reluctance, ſo ſhe ſoon re-aſſumed her proper Character, and her Perſecutions became more frequent than ever. The Queen, utterly impatient of this

Rigorous Deportment, charmed the King one day, by all manner of tender engaging Careſſes, till ſhe found him in a Humour to deny her nothing. After ſome time had paſt, ſhe told him, That if ſhe was dear to him, ſhe conjured him to give her ſome teſtimony of it, that was as well neceſſary for her Health, as the Satisfaction of her Mind. He promiſed to conſent to whatever ſhe deſired. *Why then*, ſaith ſhe, *deliver me from the Tyranny of the Dutcheſs* de Terra Nova. This Demand ſurpriſed him, and it was a pretty while before he returned her any Anſwer; but knowing that this had diſquieted her a long time, he told her at laſt, That what ſhe requeſted had never any Preſident, and that no Queen had ever changed her *Camarera Major*. *Ah, Sir*, replied the Queen, *your Majeſty has ſhew'n me ſeveral Favours for which none of your Predeceſſors have left any Example; and cannot you then condeſcend to grant me this?* *I conſent to it*, ſays the King, taking her by the Hand, *I conſent to it; but then, Madam, have a care upon whom you caſt your Eyes; for after this firſt choice it will be impoſſible for you to make another.* The Queen teſtified her Joy and Acknowledgment, by Thanks proportionable to the Pleaſure ſhe received.

The firſt Journey ſhe made, was to acquaint the Queen-Mother with the News, not at all queſtioning, but that ſhe would almoſt ſhew as much Joy upon this occaſion as her ſelf.

But

But ſhe was not a little ſurpriſed to find her ſo reſerved and cold, as if the matter were abſolutely indifferent to her. This mightily perplexed her, and ſo ſhe diſcovered the whole Affair to the *French* Ambaſſador's Lady, who took pains to put her in heart again, by making her ſenſible, that the Queen-Mother was only apprehenſive of ſeeing this place filled by ſome other Lady, who might perhaps be full as diſagreeable to her as the Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova* was, and that ſhe was of Opinion, that if ſhe propoſed ſome body to her, whom ſhe liked, ſhe would open her ſelf more clearly to her. The Young Queen replied, That ſhe would do nothing in this buſineſs, without the Advice of the Queen her Mother in Law; That ſhe was minded to have ſaid as much to her, when ſhe firſt diſcourſed her about it, but that ſhe ſeemed to be ſo indifferent in the matter, that ſhe had not Confidence enough to explain her ſelf farther. The Queen judged it would be expedient to acquaint the Duke *de Medina Celi* with this Affair, for fear, leaſt if ſhe made a Myſtery of it, and he ſhould afterwards happen to diſcover it, he might look upon himſelf to be diſobliged, and reſent it ſo much, as to endeavour to hinder the Accompliſhment of it: But ſhe ſtill lay under ſome Perplexities, becauſe ſhe fancied ſhe did not underſtand the *Spaniſh* Language well enough, to be able to hold any long Converſation in it with the Duke, and this was a nice Caſe, wherein ſhe ought to explain her ſelf clearly

and intelligibly. She was yet more afraid, that the *Camarera*, who was always a liſtening in all parts of her Apartment, and who ſometimes ſlipt into Corners, where, without being perceived, ſhe underſtood and ſaw every thing that paſt, would go and diſcover what ſhe ſaid concerning her. Theſe Reaſons prevailed with her to charge one of her Women, in whom ſhe repoſed a great confidence, to go to *Don Antonio de la Cerda*, who was a near Relation of the Duke *de Medina Celi*, and who beſides expreſſed a great Zeal for her Majeſty, and deſire him to acquaint the Chief Miniſter with what had happened, and to tell him, That ſince the Queen was reſolved to remove her *Camarera*, ſhe deſired him to chuſe for her one of his Friends, of whoſe Fidelity he was aſſured; and that it was neceſſary for him to aſſiſt her in this Affair, to the end, that acting in Conſort one with another, the buſineſs might ſucceed to their common Satisfaction. The Duke received the Honour the Queen did him, with a great deal of Reſpect and Acknowledgement, and ſent his Dutcheſs that very Evening to return her his moſt humble Thanks. When ſhe came to the Queen's Apartment, ſhe tarried till the other Ladies were gone out of the Room, that ſhe might have a better opportunity of making her Compliment.

The Queen, who knew very well, that the Dutcheſs was ſenſible enough of the favourable Condeſcenſions ſhe had made on her ſide, was deſirous to beſtow the Place upon her; but

but the Affair did not ſucceed as ſhe imagined, becauſe that Lady had too much buſineſs upon her Hands to accept the Offer. *I have deſigned it for you,* ſays the Queen, *and I am of Opinion, that you will not be unwilling to ſerve me.* The Dutcheſs thanked her, as in Duty obliged, and told her, She could wiſh with all her heart that ſhe was in a condition to accept this Honour, and that no body in the World ſhould ſerve her Majeſty more faithfully than ſhe would; but her Health was ſo ill, that it would not permit her to render her thoſe Services in which that Place, as well as her own inclinations, would engage her. But the Queen continuing to preſs her ſtill, ſhe told her, That although this Conſideration was laid aſide, yet ſhe had another of equal importance, which ſhe could never diſpence with, That ſhe had Seven Daughters, upon whoſe Education and good Conduct all her Cares were beſtow'd; and therefore ſhe requeſted her Majeſty to think of her no more: However, ſhe durſt aſſure her, ſhe believed the Marchioneſs *de Los Velez,* to be the moſt proper Perſon to execute this Place; That ſhe was a Lady of great Merit, and illuſtrious Birth; that ſhe had formerly been *Governante* to the Young King, and conſequently being ſo well known to his Majeſty, could more dexterouſly humour and pleaſe him than any one beſides. The Queen very well approved of this Advice, and the Dutcheſs afterwards withdrew. She gave her Husband an Account of what Converſation

had paſſed between her and the Queen; but he was diſpleaſed to hear that ſhe had recommended the Marchioneſs *de Los Velez*, becauſe he had already engaged himſelf in behalf of the Dutcheſs *de Albuquerque*, and earneſtly deſired to ſee her advanced to this Poſt.

The Confidence which the King repoſed in *de Eguya*, would not permit him to conceal from him the promiſe he made the Queen to remove the *Camarera*. He for his part omitted nothing that might turn off the intended blow; but he found the King was ſo fully reſolved to ſatisfie the Queen, that he perceived it would be to no purpoſe to uſe any importunities with him upon this ſcore: So all he could do in the matter, was only to acquaint the *Camarera* with what was deſigned againſt her, that ſo ſhe might be the better provided to bear the ſhock when it happened. She had ſome Suſpicions of this before, it being her principal Talent to penetrate into the moſt ſecret Affairs. This blow ſenſibly afflicted her, and ſhe could not forbear to ſpeak to the Queen about it. *Madam*, ſays ſhe, *I ſhould reckon my ſelf extreamly unfortunate, if my Zeal for your Majeſty ſhould ever happen to diſpleaſe you: I have ſpoken to you with more Zeal, and perhaps with more Freedom than any one has done; nevertheleſs, my deſign was only to inſpire you with a deſire of learning all our Faſhions, that ſo you might abſolutely poſſeſs the Heart and good Inclinations of the King: The Liberty I took has appeared too aſſuming; I have drawn your diſpleaſure upon my ſelf, by endeavouring to deſerve your Affection;*

fection; and I am informed at laſt, that your Majeſty deſires to ſee my Place filled by another. The Queen, ſurpriſed to ſee that the Affair ſhe had communicated to ſo few Perſons, had taken Air, anſwered coldly, *It is not worth the while, Madam, to trouble your ſelf about what People ſay; few Perſons know my Thoughts; and 'tis a thing uſually practiſed in Courts, to invent News, and then to relate it as if it were true.* The *Camarera* was not able to draw any Diſcoveries from this Converſation; but whether her Conſcience reproached her for the Conduct ſhe had uſed, or elſe ſhe had been informed of the Queen's Deſigns before *de Eguya* ſpoke to her about them; it was ſome time a-go ſince ſhe ſuſpected that ſhe was to be removed, and upon that Conſideration, having examined all the Ladies of the Court, who gave her the greateſt Jealouſie, ſhe found Three, *viz.* the Marchioneſs *de Los Velez*, the Dutcheſs *de Albuquerque*, and the Dutcheſs *de l' Infantado.* This is the Cauſe that ſhe took her meaſures a long time before, and ſpoke of theſe Three Ladies in very diſobliging Terms before the Queen, whenever an occaſion preſented it ſelf. She accuſed the Marchioneſs *de Los Velez* for her Haughtineſs in all her Actions, and for her inſupportable Severity. She pretended, that the Dutcheſs *de Albuquerque* hated all the *French* ſo mortally, that when ſhe happen'd to meet any of that Nation, ſhe turned her Eyes aſide, that ſhe might not behold them; and that ſhe valued her ſelf ſo mightily upon the ſcore of her high Birth and Vertue, that

ſhe had always ſomething or other to ſay againſt all the World: And then as for the Dutcheſs *de l' Infantado*, ſhe repreſented her as an old doting Woman, who at the beſt had never any great ſhare of Wit, and had now totally loſt it, by reaſon of her great Age. She was not content to ſpeak of them after this manner, but engaged all the *French* Women, who were near the Queen, to inſinuate the ſame Opinion into her, and they acquitted themſelves in the matter as well as they could, out of hopes, that if the Dutcheſs continued in her Poſt ſtill, ſhe would take care to conſider them for their good Services.

What they ſaid to the Queen upon this occaſion, made but a ſmall impreſſion upon her Mind; and the firſt time ſhe could find an opportunity to diſcourſe the Queen-Mother about it, ſhe acquainted her with her Deſigns in favour of the Marchioneſs *de los Velez*; but ſhe expreſſed as great an indifference at this Motion as ſhe did at firſt. This gave the Queen no ſmall Affliction; ſo ſhe imagined, that ſhe ought to inform her of every thing that was laid to the Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova*'s Charge, as well upon the Affair of *Don Carlos* of *Arragon*, whom ſhe cauſed to be Aſſaſſinated, as ſeveral other things that rendered her odious. After this, ſhe added the Particulars of the Deportment ſhe had uſed towards her. But the Queen-Mother pretended, as if all this were News to her, and ſtill continued to ſpeak very kindly of the *Camarera*; not that ſhe had the leaſt kindneſs for her in reality;

for

for ſhe had not forgotten how deeply ſhe had been engaged in the Intereſts of *Don Juan*; and ſhe had not as yet forgiven the Memory of that Prince for the Troubles he brought upon her.

The Reaſon of her uſing this Conduct with the Queen, was only to exclude the Marchioneſs *de Los Velez*, and the Dutcheſs *de l' Infantado*, whom ſhe did not greatly care for. She thought with her ſelf, that if ſhe deſired to oblige the Queen to take a *Camarera* from her Hands, it would he neceſſary for her to teſtifie no Averſion for her that was to fill that Place, and that the Queen being deſirous to be ſeconded by her, would demand of her whom ſhe pitched upon, and ſo take a Perſon of her own chuſing. The Young Queen was aware of her Mother-in-Law's Deſigns: However, ſhe pretended to know nothing of them, ſuppoſing that ſuch a one would be always obliged to do as the Queen-Mother directed her; Having therefore a particular inclination for the Marchioneſs *de Los Velez*, ſhe was reſolved to ſound the King's Sentiments upon that Affair, and propoſed her to him; but he expreſt an extraordinary Antipathy to her: *If*, ſays he, *you knew the Marchioneſs* de Los Velez *as well as I do, I am confident you would never think of placing her ſo near you; She has been my Governante, and is the only Perſon in the World whom I dread moſt.* The Duke *de Medina Celi* deſired no more to ſee her in that Station than the King did, and ſhew'd as great a diſlike to the Dutcheſs *de l' Infantado*; all their Votes con-

concurr'd in behalf of the Dutcheſs *de Albuquerque*, and it was agreed upon at laſt, to perſwade the Queen that ſhe ought to chuſe her.

This Choice had infallibly ſucceeded, if the Queen could have cured her ſelf of thoſe diſagreeable impreſſions which the *Camarera* had made upon her in relation to that Dutcheſs; She often thought of the imperious Humour that was attributed to her, of the pretended Averſion ſhe had to the *French*, but eſpecially of what the King had told her, That when once the Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova* was removed, and another put into her Place, ſhe muſt never think of turning her off. She was perſwaded, that ſhe ſhould be no Gainer by the change, if ſhe pitched upon the Dutcheſs *de Albuquerque*: Nay, that it might ſo happen to her, as to be a conſiderable loſer by it. This Imagination hindered her from puſhing this Affair any farther; and ſhe thought it would be much better to tarry a little, till ſhe could find out ſome other Lady, who might be altogether agreeable to her. In effect, as ſhe was ſearching after one, ſhe was told of the Marchioneſs *de Eytona*, who was a Woman of Solid Vertue, great Merit, and had abundance of Wit and Gallantry. In fine, ſhe was every way ſo well Accompliſhed, that it was neceſſary for her Majeſty to have her near her; and by the Relations ſhe had at the Queen-Mother's Court, and with the Chief Miniſter, ſhe could not chuſe but pleaſe both Parties alike. The King ſhew'd no oppoſition

to

to her, and the Queen who knew her, loved her already; ſo that ſhe was mighty joyful to meet with one whom ſhe liked ſo well. But this Joy did not continue long; for the Marchioneſs *de Eytona* fell ſick, and died a few days after. The Young Queen was ſenſibly Afflicted at this Loſs, and not knowing where to make a better choice, ſhe came back again to the Marchioneſs *de Los Velez*, becauſe ſhe comprehended no difference between the Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova* and the Dutcheſs *de Albuquerque*; And as for the Dutcheſs *de l' Infantado*, ſhe perceived well enough that ſhe was not fit for her.

But now to propoſe the Marchioneſs *de Los Velez*, was to attempt a thing that could never ſucceed, for the Reaſons I have already mentioned. The Marchioneſs, who perceived them better than any body, could not endure to be ſo long expoſed to an Excluſion that was ſo very diſobliging to her; So ſhe went to find out the Queen, and returned her Thanks for her great Favours; but ſhe told her, That her Age, and the Trouble ſhe had had with the King, when ſhe was Governante to him, gave her ſo great a diſreliſh for the Court, that ſhe could by means reconcile her ſelf to it, and therefore deſired her to think of her no more. All theſe Difficulties ſeemed to ariſe for the Satisfaction of the Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova*, or at leaſt, they proved the occaſion why ſhe continued ſtill in her Place; and that the Queen, utterly wearied to find ſo many diſappointments in her way,

way, was come to ſuch a paſs, that ſhe was no longer deſirous to remove her. The Queen-Mother all the while intrigued more than ſhe, becauſe ſhe earneſtly deſired to have that Lady turned out of the Palace.

What ſtill contributed to make the Young Queen leſs concerned for the matter, was, that her Mind was taken up with new Troubles, that were more preſſing upon her than thoſe ſhe received from the *Camarera*; I mean, the Apprehenſions they had at Court of a Rupture between the two Crowns. The Queen remained inconſolable, when ſhe conſidered, that the Peace of *Nimeguen*, of which ſhe was, as it were, the Seal, was going to be broken. The Love ſhe had for *France*, and the Obligations that faſtened her to *Spain*, ballanced all her Inclinations; and ſhe often ſhed Tears, out of a fear only of ſeeing the War renewed.

The moſt Chriſtian King pretended, That the *Spaniards* had pillaged and abuſed his Subjects in ſeveral places, and either burnt or taken many *French* Veſſels; That they returned him no Anſwer at *Madrid*, to the Complaints he had made; That the Marqueſs *de Borgomaine*, who reſided at *London*, in quality of Ambaſſador Extraordinary from the King of *Spain*, obſerved no manner of meaſures; nay, not even thoſe that Decency preſcribes; That he had made a League in the Name of the King his Maſter, with the King of *England* againſt *France*; That he was well informed, that as he was upon his departure to go

Am-

Ambaſſador to *Vienna*, he had received private Orders to ſtay ſome time in *Holland*, to try if he could perſwade the *Hollanders* to do the moſt prejudicial things they could to *France*. The King, provoked at ſo clandeſtine a Conduct, and ſo extraordinary in the midſt of a Peace, which he had not infringed the leaſt on his part, was reſolved to act according to his uſual Juſtice and Equity; and finding himſelf poſſeſs'd with theſe Reſentments, he had nothing to incline him to believe, that he was obliged to part with any of his Rights.

He ordered his Gallies to put to Sea, with an expreſs Command to make thoſe of *Spain* give them the firſt Gun whenever they met them. He knew that this Affair had been regulated at the ſame time when *Philip* IV. had agreed, that his Ambaſſadors ſhould never appear in Publick with thoſe of *France*; and he made the Duke *de Medina Celi* be acquainted, that the Conduct he uſed during the Peace, was ſo oppoſite to Peace it ſelf, that he ſaw himſelf obliged to ſeek out all Advantages on his ſide, as he found it expedient.

The King of *Spain*, for his part, complained of the exact Severity that was ſhown him in the ſmalleſt matters, alledging, that when the Commiſſioners of the moſt Chriſtian King were to have adjuſted with thoſe that came from *Spain*, the Limits of what had been yielded up by the Treaty of *Nimeguen*, the *French* had refuſed to Treat with the Deputies of

of *Spain*, as long as the Catholick King ſhould take upon him the Quality of the Duke of *Burgundy*: They added a Declaration to this Refuſal, That if within a certain time aſſigned, they did not Treat, by Vertue of another Commiſſion, where this Title was not inſerted, they would immediately put the King of *France* in Poſſeſſion of the Territories and Rights which belonged to him. So that the King of *Spain* was content to cut off the Titles he uſually aſſumes, with an *&c.*

This League, about which the Marqueſs *de Borgomaine* made ſuch a buſtle and ſtir in *England*, was at laſt concluded with *Spain*. It was a mutual Engagement on both ſides, whereby they obliged themſelves to defend one another, in what place ſoever they ſhould happen to be attacked. For this end *England* was to furniſh Eight Thouſand Foot, and Thirty Men of War; and *Spain* was obliged to ſend an Hundred Thouſand Crowns every Month into *Flanders*, to keep the Gariſons there in a good condition, and have Twelve Thouſand Men in pay in *Champagne*. They were in good hopes, that the Emperour and the *Hollander* would likewiſe enter into the League. *Don Pedro Ronquillo*, Ambaſſador Extraordinary of *Spain*, in *England*, ſent a Courier, with a Ratification of the Treaty, which was received at *Madrid* on the 25*th* of *June*, 1680.

Moſt People were very well ſatisfied, when they ſaw the ſeveral Motions on both ſides, that the War would infallibly be kindled ſome-

ſomewhere or other in *Flanders*. The Duke *de Villa Hermoſa* had demanded to be recalled home, and that another Governour might be ſent to ſupply his Place. The unconcerned Temper, as well as the Natural Slowneſs of the *Spaniards*, held the matter a conſiderable time in ſuſpence, without giving themſelves the trouble to determine it. The Marqueſs *de Los Balbazez*, was firſt pitched upon to be ſent thither: but as ſoon as he received Advice of it, he endeavoured all he could to get himſelf excuſed, out of an Apprehenſion that they would engage him at the ſame time to contract vaſt Debts, to which his Thrifty Humour gave him an invincible Averſion. Beſides this, they found it a difficult matter to meet with any Subject who was to their Mind: The Report ran, That the Duke of *Lorrain* would go to command there in Chief; Afterwards it was ſaid, the Duke of *Newburg* would be the Man, for whom the Marqueſs *de Grana* did ſeveral good Offices. After they had deliberated a long time about the Merits of theſe two Competitors, at laſt they caſt their Eyes upon Prince *Alexander Farneſe*; he obtained the Preference, and was named about the beginning of *July*. He was Brother to the Duke of *Parma*, and was about Threeſcore Year old; the Gout very much troubled him, and the Tallneſs of his Stature was very Extraordinary: He had been a long time devoted to *Spain*, and particularly to the Queen-Mother, at the juncture when ſhe had thoſe great Differences with *Don Juan*: He had

had been General of the Cavalry in *Eſtramadura* and *Catalonia*, and paſſed for a very great Souldier, although 'tis certain he had but very little Experience, and the Management of his private Affairs ſufficiently demonſtrated it; for he ow'd every body Money, paid ſeldom, and had not a Farthing by him: his Profuſeneſs and his Miſtreſſes ruined him; and although, after all, he had really a great Eſtate, yet it was miſerably incumbred. It was the General Opinion here, that if the War commenced, *Flanders* would be the firſt Victim; and this made them believe, that it would be leſs ignominious for *Spain* to ſuffer this Loſs, when an *Italian* was Governour of the *Low-Countries*, than if a *Spaniard* were there. In ſhort, it could be nothing elſe but this Conſideration only, that could poſſibly induce them to believe they did well to fill this Poſt with a Man, who never had managed as yet any Affair of that vaſt importance as theſe were. They bargained with *Don Franciſco de Caſtile*, for the Sum of Three Hundred Thouſand Crowns, which was to be remitted to *Bruſſels*, for the payment of the Troops: And after Prince *Alexander* had received the Thirty Thouſand Crowns which the King ordered to be given him, to bear the Expence of his Voyage, he parted on the 17*th* of *July*, to go and take Shipping at the *Groyne* in *Galicia*. He took along with him abundance of Voluntiers, and a numerous Train of Domeſticks: He ſent a Courier into *France*, to get neceſſary Paſports, and left the Court in ſuch haſte,

haſte, that he forgot to carry with him the Patent for his Government. It was not very long before he heartily repented for ſo doing, and he preſt earneſtly to have it: However, they promiſed him one, but deferr'd to expedite it; ſo that he could only be ſaid to be Governour for the *Interim*; and it was believed, with Reaſon enough, that he would not be well pleaſed with this Uſage. He had intruſted ſome Perſons at *Madrid* to ſollicite this Affair for him; but they refuſed the Expeditions, when the Court would oblige them to take them in ſuch a Form, and after many Petitions on their ſide, and ſeveral Conteſts with the Miniſters about it, it was not at laſt inſerted into the Patent after what manner he was made Governour.

In the mean-time the Prince departed from *Madrid* with ſo little Money, according to his uſual Cuſtom, that he was ſcarce arrived at the *Groyne*, but he diſpatch'd a Courier away to the Court with ſome Letters, wherein he demanded Money to perform his Voyage. They anſwered him very coldly, That they would adviſe him not to defer the day of his departure, and that they could by no means believe, that he had already ſpent his Thirty Thouſand Crowns. He embarked immediately, accompanied by ſome Veſſels belonging to *Biſcay*, which tranſported five hundred new raiſed Men, that had been levied in *Galicia*, and were commanded to guard the *Frontiers*. The People in *Flanders* had not for many Years ſeen any other Governour but

Don Juan; he poſſeſſed the Government as his own till his Death; and although he was at ſo great a diſtance, yet Couriers were ſtill diſpatched to him, to receive his Orders, even in the moſt important Conjunctures. To ſay the truth, the Conſtable of *Caſtile* had been ſent thither, as I have already obſerved in the beginning of theſe Memoirs, in the Place of that Prince; and he obtained a General Patent, without ſpecifying in it, that it was only by a Commiſſion; but the Queen-Mother would have it ſo, on purpoſe to diſguſt *Don Juan*.

The preſſing Neceſſity there was for Money in *Flanders*, obliged the Duke *de Medina Celi* to ſearch with all imaginable Application ſome means or other to furniſh them with ſome; and he tried ſeveral without meeting any Succeſs. *Don Franciſco de Caſtile* immediately promis'd to remit Thirty Thouſand Crowns thither, and afterwards engaged to make a return of Eighteen Hundred Thouſand *Florins* more; upon which conſideration they were to give him Two Hundred Thouſand Crowns in Hand, and to pay him the reſt at different times upon Aſſignations, which in all probability would never have been paid to him. He queſtioning it very much, was not willing to be their Fool, and reſolved to ſend no Money to *Bruſſels*, but accordingly as he received it at *Madrid*. They failed to perform the Promiſe they had made him, to pay him Two Hundred Thouſand Crowns down upon the Nail;

and

d he, for his part, failed them in the t.

Now how was it poſſible to draw ſuch Sum as this out of the King's Treaſury, hen it was totally exhauſted? The inferi-ur Officers of his Houſe having tarried for heir Wages longer than they could well do, except they reduced themſelves to down-right Beggary, would have thrown up their Live ries, being reſolved to quit the Service, unleſs they had been partly detained by Menaces, and partly by fair Promiſes to ſee them paid, if they continued in it ſtill. As for People of Quality, they could not tell what to do: After they had pawn'd their Jewels, their Plate, nay, even their Canopies of State, and their wearing Apparel, they found they had now no more Money or Credit left. The Bankers were not in a better condition, and the Merchants had neither Merchandize nor Money. The inconvenience of proclaiming Money, to go at a lower Price, was ſenſibly perceived every day more and more, and the Publick Miſery ſtill increaſed. A Man cannot ſufficiently wonder that things of ſo great a conſequence were managed with ſo little conſideration: Nay, matters were come to that paſs, that in ſeveral Provinces they were forced to exchange Cattle for Corn, and Cloath for Linnen, becauſe there was not Money enough to circulate in the way of Trade. Heaven pitied the great Afflictions of thoſe People, and favoured them with a Plentiful Year; but the Price of Bread was

not in the leaſt diminiſhed, either through the Negligence or Villany of the Magiſtrates, who were ſo far from encouraging the Corn to be brought into the great Cities, that they under-hand hindered it from being carried to thoſe Places. The Queen-Mother's Houſhold began to find in their turn, the Effects of theſe Diſorders; ſhe had been hitherto very well paid, and her Domeſticks received their *Racions*, that is to ſay, their Allowances, either in Money or Proviſions; and now when they preſt the Treaſurers to take care they might have them, they were told, that they might go and viſit the Cheſts of the Treaſury, if they pleaſed, which at preſent were all open, becauſe they had no Money within.

So many particular, as well as private Calamities, were yet increaſed by the Ravage and Deſolation the Plague made in *Andaluzia*. It is not long ago ſince it was altogether uninhabited along the Sea Coaſts from *Malaga* to *Alicant*. The Kingdom of *Granada* was not free from this Peſtilence, which ſpread it ſelf about *Sevil* and *Corduba*, and in *Eſtramadura*. It was immediately perceived at Port St. *Mary*, but they would not take any publick notice of it, till after the departure of the *Flota* for the *Indies*, for fear of ſpoiling Commerce. If it had not been for this conſideration, it had been viſibly perceived much ſooner. The difficulties ſtill increaſed, as to the buſineſs of Trade, and People were apprehenſive that their Letters, Commodities and Goods carried the infection with them. It is natural

ral enough for Men to uſe all neceſſary Precaution againſt ſo dangerous a Diſtemper as this was.

I have already obſerved, that the Duke *de Medina Celi* would have fain engaged the King to part with his Confeſſor, but that finding ſo many difficulties appear in the way, he deſiſted from his deſign: But Father *Francis de Relux* had not, for his part, forgotten the ill Offices that the Duke endeavoured to do him. He diſſembled his Reſentments, becauſe he was not as yet ſo well ſettled in the King's good inclinations, as to venture to cope with the Chief Miniſter. But as ſoon as he found himſelf upon ſure grounds, he ſpoke to *de Eguya*, and the Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova*, to intereſt them in his quarrel, out of a deſire he had to make the Duke ſenſible of the Effects of his Power. The old Dutcheſs was not ignorant, that the Duke hated her, and that he paſſionately deſired to ſee another in her Place: This inſpired her with a mortal Averſion to him; and ſo theſe Three Perſons being always united, raiſed a conſiderable Faction againſt him: But that of the Confeſſor was carried on more ſecretly, and conſequently was more dangerous. It often happens, that a Man purſues his Revenge freely, when he may ſafely do it under the Pretence of Devotion; And this was the Caſe of Father *de Relux*; for he inceſſantly attacked the King in his moſt tender part, his Conſcience. 'He 'repreſented to him the Miſery of his Peo-'ple, the Extremity of the State, the Diſ-

'order and Miſcarriages, which were ſo far 'from being remedied, that they were open-'ly encouraged; that no Grievances were re-'dreſt, that every thing came to ruine; that 'if his Majeſty was ſenſible that he had not 'Power and Experience enough to regulate 'Affairs of himſelf, and to take the Reins of 'the Government into his own hands, he 'ought at leaſt, to intruſt them with a 'Miniſter, who would give him an honeſt 'and faithful Account of his Employment: 'That the debate was not now about a trivial 'matter, but that his Everlaſting Salvation 'lay at ſtake; that God, who makes and 'preſerves Kings in their Sovereign Authori-'ty, expects that Kings ſhould perform their 'Duties; that they are obliged to cheriſh their 'Subjects as their Children, and to make them 'happy as far as it lies in their Power; that 'the Duke *de Medina Celi* only regarded his 'own private Intereſts, and minded nothing 'but his Family, which was very numerous, 'and the advancing of his Relations, whilſt 'the reſt of *Spain* groaned under the heavy 'weight of Subſidies, Impoſts, and a thou-'ſand other Vexations, which were purpoſely 'raiſed to exhauſt them; that he was obliged 'in Conſcience to inform him, that unleſs he 'vigorouſly endeavoured to apply proper Re-'medies to theſe Evils, it was his Duty to de-'ny him Abſolution. The King, who conti-nued for ſome time aſtoniſhed at theſe Mena-ces, demanded of him, whether he did not ſpeak all theſe afflicting things only to try him,

him, The other anſwered, That he was ſo far from entertaining any ſuch thoughts, that were ſo little conformable to the Reſpect he owed him, that he would willingly have ſacrificed his own Life, to have been exempted from the cruel neceſſity of ſpeaking to him after ſo frank a manner. The King was very Penſive, and ſpent ſeveral days in conſulting himſelf, without knowing what to reſolve upon: He loved the Duke *de Medina Celi* exceedingly, and at laſt ſent for him to come to him. So having ſhut him up with himſelf in his Cloſet, he fairly acquainted him with the occaſion of his Uneaſineſs, and with his Apprehenſions in relation to his Salvation: He recounted to him every thing that paſt between his Confeſſor and him, and how he refuſed to Abſolve him, becauſe of the general diſorder of Affairs; and at laſt told the Duke, He had now ſent for him to comfort him with good Reaſons. The Chief Miniſter liſtned very reſpectfully to him all the while, and would not ſuffer himſelf to be tranſported with any Paſſion againſt the Confeſſor's Severity, for fear the King ſhould ſuſpect the true Motives of that Heat. On the contrary he agreed, 'That he was indeed a Man of 'Sincerity, and that his Advices ſeemed to 'proceed from a good intent: But then he 'added, That he was a Monk, and had no 'manner of Experience in the World: That '*Don Juan* had drawn him out of a Convent, 'where he lay buried; That he never had any Converſation but with Monks, like

'himſelf; that he was dazled with the Poſt, 'to which, by the Favour of *Don Juan* he 'had been elevated all on the ſudden; that 'his Head was giddy, and that he knew not 'how to make any difference between things 'and times, although this was an Article ab- 'ſolutely neceſſary in the Conduct of Souls; 'that he placed the King's Soul in a parallel 'with that of a private Man; that he agreed 'indeed, that in the ſight of God one were 'as valuable as the other, and that all the dif- 'ference that was to be found between them, 'proceeded only from the diverſity of their 'Works; but then every Man had a particu- 'lar way to ſave himſelf, that a Prince ought 'to live like a Prince, and a private Man 'like a private Man, and ſo after the ſame 'manner, a Secular like a Secular, and a Re- 'ligious like a Religious; that Father *Relux*, 'whoſe Capacity was very narrow, confound- 'ed all Eſtates, and even loſt himſelf in this 'Chaos; that his Majeſty ought not to be di- 'ſturbed at what he had told him, and eſpe- 'cially leaſt of all in the preſent Affairs, be- 'cauſe he aſſured him, for his part, that he 'would not loſe a moment to ſet them in the 'beſt Order imaginable; that in truth, it was 'neceſſary to allow ſome time for the perfor- 'mance of this; that let a Man's Zeal be ne- 'ver ſo earneſt for the Publick Good, yet he 'cannot effect it immediately, ſince it is full 'as difficult a matter to remedy Grievances, as 'tis eaſie to deſire the removal of them; but that 'ſince the Confeſſor had troubled himſelf with

'ſeveral

'ſeveral things, which did not at all belong to 'him, if the King would be pleaſed to take 'his Advice, he would provide him with one, 'who was more capable of the Poſt than F. '*Relux*, and would never torment him with 'impertinent Scruples.

The Duke found it an eaſie matter to perſwade his Majeſty to embrace a thing that would ſet his Conſcience at reſt; and the King had conſented that very moment to the removal of the Confeſſor, if he had not judged it neceſſary to take the Advice of *Don Geronimo de Eguya*, and ſo he told the Duke, that he would make a few Reflections as was requiſite, upon the matter. *De Eguya* coming to wait upon the King, he communicated his Deſigns to him. After the ſtrict Union that was between this Favourite, the Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova*, and Father *Relux*, there was little probability that he would conſent to his Removal, but as he preferr'd his own Intereſts to thoſe of other Perſons, and only ſerved others out of a Reſpect to his own Advantage: So he found, that the Confeſſor was ſo devoted to the *Camarera Major*, and that ſhe ſo reſolutely ſwore the Down-fall of the Duke, that if this Combination continued much longer, the Duke would infallibly fall under the weight of it: That his Succeſſor might perhaps have leſs favourable Diſpoſitions towards him, and that he had better ſacrifice the Confeſſor to the Miniſter, than the Miniſter to the Confeſſor. Theſe Reaſons appeared ſo well-grounded, that inſtead of inſpiring other Sentimen

timents into the King, he fortified thoſe he had already, and this was enough to ruine the Father Confeſſor to all intents and purpoſes. They offered him, as they did before, the Biſhoprick of *Avila*, in order to obſerve ſome ſort of Decency in removing him; but he would not accept of it, and was content to continue a Counſellor in the Supreme Council of the Inquiſition, where they are always obliged to have a *Dominican*. The Duke *de Medina Celi* perſwaded the King to take in his Place Father *Bayona*, a *Dominican*, Profeſſor of the Univerſity of *Alcala*: He had expreſſed a great deſire long before to ſee him placed in this Station, and had ſpoke of him ever ſince the Miniſtry of *Don Juan*. That Prince, who had no kindneſs for him, would never admit him, ſaying, that he was a *Frenchman*. He was indeed a Native of *Navar*, but that was the *Spaniſh Navar*: He entred into this Function towards the end of *July*. 'Tis very obſervable, that in the ſpace of Five Years the King had Seven Confeſſors.

This Alteration gave a fatal Blow to the Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova*, and the Chief Miniſter flatter'd himſelf, that ſhe would now leave the Palace in a ſhort time. Since People ſpoke no more of ſending her away, and ſhe was well informed of every thing that paſt, ſhe was of opinion, that they could not find any Lady who was fit to ſucceed her in her Place, and that ſhe ſhould ſtill continue in it: But the Queen finding all her Stock of Patience ſpent and gone, by reaſon of all thoſe

occaſions of Complaint ſhe ſtill perſiſted to give her, conſented at laſt to receive the Dutcheſs *de Albuquerque* near her Perſon: But this was not till after ſhe had endeavoured to obtain the Marchioneſs *de Los Velez*, and even the Dutcheſs *de l' Infantado*. She ſaw very well, that the Queen-Mother, and the Chief Miniſter would never give their Conſent to it, and that it was indiſpenſably neceſſary for her to take a *Camarera Major* from their hands, or elſe to reſt contented with whom ſhe now had. Every one gave the Dutcheſs *de Albuquerque* a good Character, to efface thoſe ill impreſſions ſhe had received againſt her. They took care to ſatisfie her, 'That ſhe was ingenious, 'and well-read in the World; that ſhe was 'not ignorant of any of the Cuſtoms and 'Ceremonies of the Court; that ſhe would 'do her all good Offices imaginable, both 'with the Queen-Mother, and the Duke *de Me-*'*dina Celi*; that ſhe had better make this 'Choice freely and voluntarily, than expreſs 'any repugnance to a thing, which would 'unavoidably happen. Theſe Reaſons had their Effect; the Queen accepted her, and receiv'd her very kindly when ſhe ſaw her. She had concerted the matter with the Queen her Mother in Law, and the Duke *de Medina Celi*: But this was not ſufficient; the King's Conſent remained ſtill to be gained; and he was no leſs averſe to the Dutcheſs *de Albuquerque*, than to the Marchioneſs *de Los Velez*. The Prejudices he had received againſt this Dutcheſs were of the ſame Nature with thoſe that had

had been inſinuated into the Queen. The Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova*, and the Secretary *de Eguya*, were the Perſons who had thus maliciouſly pre poſſeſſed him againſt her; and nothing leſs than all the Authority of the Queen-Mother could make him reſolve to admit her into the Palace. She ſpoke to him of it at firſt very ſoftly and gently, but afterwards in a ſtronger and higher Tone. She told him, 'That it was high time for him now to know 'People of himſelf, and not to judge of their 'Merits by what was whiſpered to him con-'cerning them; that any Perſon might be ſo 'unhappy as to have ſecret Enemies, and that 'he was in a miſerable condition to depend 'always upon thoſe that poſſeſſed his Ear. When he perceived the Queen-Mother to ſpeak to him after this manner, he oppoſed the buſineſs no longer, and ſo every thing was adjuſted. *Don Pedro de Arragon* received Orders on the Twentieth of *Auguſt*, to acquaint the Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova* with the Queen's Intentions, and with the Reaſons ſhe pretended to Aſſign againſt her Conduct; that the beſt way ſhe could take, would be to obey without reſiſtance, and to make it appear, as well as ſhe could, that ſhe retired of her own Accord.

This Blow did not ſurprize her, ſince ſhe was long a go prepared for it, by the private Whiſperings that were ſpread about the Court. She anſwered *Don Pedro de Arragon* in a very few Words, and could not yet bring her ſelf to believe, that the King had given his Conſent

ſent to her Removal: So ſhe was reſolved to be ſatisfied of the truth of it from his own Mouth. She waited to ſpeak with him, as he was juſt going to ſit down to Dinner, and entertain'd him for ſome time in a low Tone; at laſt, raiſing her Voice to a higher pitch, ſhe demanded leave of him to retire. The King anſwered her aloud, *I give you my Conſent, Madam; you may retire as ſoon as you pleaſe.* Theſe few Words were like to diſcompoſe all the Conſtancy of the Dutcheſs; ſhe changed Colour ſeveral times, and advanced a few ſteps to ſpeak in private with him again; but he turned his back towards her, and asked ſomething or other of the Duke *de Uzeda.* She went haſtily out of the Room, and retired to her Chamber to compoſe her ſelf again; but the diſorder ſhe was in, would not permit her to appear before the Queen till Evening; and then ſhe came to wait upon her at Supper, and at her going to Bed, with as unconcerned an Air, as if nothing had paſſed, though to counterfeit this, gave her a great deal of trouble, becauſe ſhe was throughly netled. The Queen was informed by the King of what he had ſaid to her; however, ſhe had the Goodneſs not to diſcover any thing of it, although ſhe had no Reaſon to be well pleaſed with her.

Next Morning, the Dutcheſs, who had not gone to Bed, but had paſſed the whole Night walking in her Chamber, with the Dutcheſſes *de Monteleon* and *de Hijar* her two Daughters, only waited till the Queen was up, to go and take

take her leave of her. Her Viſage was more pale than ordinary, and her Eyes more red and fiery: She then approached the Queen, and without weeping, or ſhewing the leaſt Concern, told her, She was very ſorry that ſhe had not ſerved her ſo well as ſhe wiſhed. The Queen, who was a Perſon of wonderful Tenderneſs, could not forbear to ſeem ſomewhat touched, and to relent a little; but as ſhe was ſaying ſome obliging things to comfort her, the Dutcheſs interrupted her, and told her with an imperious Air, 'That a Queen 'of *Spain* ought not to weep for ſo inconſider-'able a matter; That the *Camarera* who came 'to ſucceed her in her Place, would acquit 'her ſelf better of her Duty: And ſo, without ſaying a Word more, ſhe took hold of the Queen's Hand, and making a ſhew of kiſſing it, immediately retired. When every one about the Court knew that ſhe was to go away, they came to her Apartment, ſhedding Tears, either through Policy, Inclination or Weakneſs. She did not ſeem to them to be in the leaſt afflicted, and caſting her Eyes on all ſides, ſhe ſaid: *I thank Heaven, this is a Place where I ſhall never ſet my Foot again*; *I am going to taſte the Sweets of Repoſe, and to find Tranquillity at my own Houſe: I will go to* Sicily, *there I ſhall meet with no ſuch Diſguſts as I have found at* Madrid. In ſaying theſe Words, ſhe ſtruck her Fiſt twice upon a little Table that ſtood near her, and taking a very pretty *China* Fan, ſhe broke it in two, threw it upon the ground, and ſtampt it under her Feet.

Thus

Thus ſhe was ſent away a few days after the Father Confeſſor; ſhe that never thought of leaving the Court, as well by reaſon of the Aſcendant ſhe had got over the King, as becauſe it was a thing without a Preſident, till now, to remove the Queen's *Camarera Major*, unleſs it ſo happen'd, that ſhe deſired it her ſelf. 'Tis eaſie to imagine the Grief ſhe felt upon this occaſion; however, to comfort her in ſome meaſure, it was reſolved to beſtow the Vice-Royſhip of *Gallicia* upon the Duke *de Hijar*, her Son in Law, and the Order of the Fleece upon the Duke *de Monteleon*, who had married her Grand Daughter. They were likewiſe willing ſtill to continue to her the Honours and the Appointments belonging to her Place; but as ſoon as ſhe was informed of the good intentions of the Court towards her, ſhe proudly ſaid, That ſhe would refuſe every thing they could offer her, and that *this was to give her Incenſe, forſooth, and break her Noſe with the Cenſer.*

As ſoon as ſhe was departed from the Palace, the Dutcheſs *de Albuquerque* went thither to take poſſeſſion of her Apartment; and though ſhe had the Character of a Proud Haughty Woman, yet ſhe did not make it appear, that ſhe intended to Copy after the Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova*'s Conduct: On the other hand, ſhe entertained all People with a World of Reſpect and Civility, and expreſſed the greateſt Affection imaginable for the Young Queen. This Lady was Widow to the Duke *de Albuquerque*, who was Chief of the Family *de la Cueva*,

Cueva, and was Fifty Years old. I always ſaw her wear a little Bandore of Black Taffata, which reached down as low as her Eye-Brows, and bound her Forehead ſo hard, that her Eyes were ſwelled with it. She was a Woman of great Wit and Reading, and on certain days in the Week, held Aſſemblies at her Houſe, where all the Learned were well received. She had only one Daughter, whom ſhe married to the Youngeſt Brother of the late Duke *de Albuquerque*, to keep up the Name of the Family. She was paſſionately devoted to the Queen-Mother's Party, and People did not doubt, but that ſhe would uſe the Young Queen very well. They were afterwards confirmed in this Opinion, when they heard the King, a little after her admittance to Court, tell the Queen, That he would have her take her Pleaſure more than ſhe had hitherto done; That ſhe muſt walk abroad, and ride on Horſe-back; and that he was willing ſhe might go to Bed late, provided he might go to Bed at Eight a Clock, as his Cuſtom was. Nay, he was ſo very complaiſant a few days after, as to reſolve not to go to Bed till Ten. This agreeable Alteration in his Conduct, gave the World occaſion to conjecture, that the Dutcheſs *de Albuquerque* had engaged the Queen-Mother to ſpeak to the King in favour of her; and that the Severity which the Queen had hitherto undergone, had been inſpired into the King only by the means of the Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova*.

The

The Marqueſs *de Caralvo*, who was of the Council of State, died about this time: He left prodigious Sums of ready Money behind him; and the Crown gained by his Death ſixty ſeven thouſand Crowns, which was yearly given him by way of Penſion. The Admiral of *Caſtile*'s Lady died likewiſe, and as he had lived after a very indifferent manner with her always, and was one of the greateſt Admirers of the Fair Sex in all the World; ſo he did not over-much complain for his Wive's Death, nor was over-ſorrowful to become a Widower. He had accuſtomed her to ſee near fifteen or ſixteen of his Miſtriſſes live in his Houſe with him, in very fine Apartments, and all different; and he was ſometimes ſo malicious, when ſhe walked out in the Garden, as to look out of a Window with one of theſe Creatures ſtanding by him, who let her Handkerchief, or a Ribban drop, and the Admiral would call to his Wife to take it up, and bring it to the Perſon to whom it belonged; which ſhe ſubmitted to do, with a Reſpect and Patience that all the World admired.

It happened to be ſaid at Court, That a certain Man was found digging in the Ground very early in the Morning, over-againſt the *Imperial Colledge*. His Deſign was to take up ſome Money and Jewels, which a *Jew*, who had been burnt, and whoſe Domeſtick he was, had buried in that place. The King ordered him to bring what he had found there: It was all locked up in a little Iron

Cheſt, which was full of Pieces of Gold of ſeveral ſorts; and amongſt the reſt, there were Two Pictures, which I have ſeen, bigger than my Hand, and incircled round with Diamonds of a conſiderable Value: about them were Two little Scrowls of Parchment, with ſome Writing upon them; upon one, *The Dutcheſs de Chevreuſe*; and on the other, *The Dutcheſs de Montbazon.* It was judged, that the *Jews*, who traffick much, and lend Money upon Pawns, came perhaps by theſe Pictures after the ſame manner. They were perfectly finiſhed, and the Ladies were both of admirable Beauty. The King ſaid, that they ought to be ſent to the *Eſcurial.*

I often had the happineſs to ſee the Marchioneſs *de Liche*, who was one of the moſt beautiful and agreeable Perſons at Court; her Husband was a Man of infinite Wit: He was much againſt his Will Ambaſſador at *Rome*; and when he was to go thither, endeavoured all the ways in the World to break off his Voyage. He tarried a long time upon the Coaſts of *Spain*, and was unwilling to depart, pretending that he was ill, and praying them to ſend another in his room, to whom he offered to give all his Equipage, as a free Gift, or elſe to truſt him for it, at his choice: But the Court was afraid of the Vivacity of his Genius, and he was known to be a Man of Enterpriſe: For this Reaſon it was thought convenient to keep him at a diſtance, and ſo they ſent him freſh Orders to depart, and go to *Rome.* He appeared there with a great

great Magnificence, and ſupported the Honour of his Miniſtry very well. When the Duke *de Medina Celi* was made Chief Miniſter, he writ ſeveral Letters to him, and employ'd the Intereſt of all his Family to get himſelf re-called. It was poſitively denied him, becauſe he was feared now more than ever; And it was apprehended, in caſe he returned home, that he would unite himſelf with his Brother the Count *de Monterei*. To theſe Reaſons of State the Duke *de Medina Celi* joyned ſome private ones, that purely reſpected his own proper Intereſt: for it was an eaſie matter to take Advantage of the Abſence of the Marqueſs *de Liche*, to have a certain Law-Suit determined, which was depending between them.

The Marqueſs being informed of what had happened, and deſpairing ever to ſurmount thoſe Obſtacles which the Duke laid in his way, thought the ſureſt Expedient to get himſelf re-called home, would be to diſguſt the Pope upon all occaſions; And herein he acquitted himſelf ſo dexterouſly, and did every thing to diſpleaſe the Pope after ſo diſobliging a manner, that his Holineſs ſent the King Word, That unleſs he would re-call the Marqueſs *de Liche*, he muſt reſolve to leave *Rome*; intreating him to ſend another Ambaſſador in his Place, ſince he had never ſeen ſo diſagreeable a one as this in all his Life: But they anſwered him, That one of the Reaſons which inclined them to continue him ſtill at *Rome*, was, becauſe his Holineſs had declared,

That he would grant the Rights of the Franchiſes, and the Immunities of their Quarter, only to thoſe Ambaſſadors who were then reſident in *Rome*, and that thoſe who were to be ſent in their room for the time to come, ſhould no more enjoy them.

The *Pope* perceiving that he tormented himſelf in vain, and that if he, for his part, had good Reaſons to demand the re-calling of the Marqueſs *de Liche*, the Court of *Spain* had alſo theirs to deny it, did not renew his Importunities any more: but being reſolved to do all the ill Offices he could to the Ambaſſador, who had on purpoſe diſobliged him, as far as lay in his power, he found an opportunity to quit Scores with him; and he took his Advantage of it with pleaſure. It was about a Diſpenſation, which the Marqueſs *de Liche* demanded of him, in favour of *Don Pedro de Arragon*, his Uncle, to marry *Donna Catalina de la Cerda*, Daughter to the Duke *de Medina Celi*.

This young Lady was Niece to *Don Pedro de Arragon*, who was Brother to the Duke *de Cardonne*, and to the Cardinal of *Arragon*; and the Duke *de Cardonne* was Father to the Dutcheſs *de Medina Celi*: ſo that there was an abſolute neceſſity for a Diſpenſation. The Marqueſs was intruſted with the procuring of it by his Uncle, who writ him word, That he ſhould die contentedly, if he could but leave an Heir of his Name and Eſtate behind him; That after he had been twice married, without getting any Children, he ho-

hoped his Third Match would prove more Fortunate to him; and therefore he desired him, not to lose a moment to obtain of the Pope what he desired. The Ambassador omitted nothing to compass it, and gave himself a great deal of Trouble and Pains to no purpose; they still put him off, and sent him sometimes to one, and sometimes to another Cardinal. In fine, after having made him dance Attendance long enough, till he had lost all manner of Patience, they bluntly told him, that they could by no means grant what he demanded, and that the Pope made a Scruple of giving a Dispensation to a Man, who was Seventy Years old, to marry his Niece, who was not yet Sixteen. The Ambassador sensibly resented this Refusal, and sent speedy notice of it to *Don Pedro de Arragon*: but what gave him a new occasion to be more displeased, was to hear, That at the very moment, when *Don Pedro* was reading his Letter at *Madrid*, the *Nuncio* brought him a Dispensation that was expedited *gratis*, and told him, That he had received it much sooner, if the Marquess *de Liche* had not appeared in the matter. *Don Pedro* sent his Nephew word of all these Circumstances, who was exceedingly vexed at it. The Marriage was concluded on the 15*th* of *July*, without any Ceremony, at the House of the Duke *de Medina Celi*, where Cardinal *Portocarero* married them.

All the *Spanish* Officers at *Naples* were enjoyn'd to re assume the *Spanish* Dress: 'Twas

believed that the *Neapolitans* would ſoon imitate them; but ſeeing they did it not in the leaſt, an Ordinance was publiſhed, by Sound of Trumpet, at the beginning of *Auguſt*, commanding all the Officers of Juſtice to Apparel themſelves after the *Spaniſh* Faſhion. This Conduct had never been uſed towards them, had it not been to let them ſee how great a Heart-burning it was to them, to behold them dreſt after the *French* way. The Troops continued ſtill to make Complaints, becauſe it was a long time ſince they had been paid off: They ſpoke ſeveral times to the Vice-Roy about it, who ſent them to the Secretary of War, and he to the Caſh-Keeper, or Pay-Maſter to the Army. He anſwered them, That the Military Funds were clearly exhauſted, and that he was not in a Condition to ſatisfie them. This makes it ſufficiently appear, That the extream Miſery, which indeed oppreſſed the whole *Spaniſh* Monarchy, was not only perceived at *Madrid*.

The King being fully reſolved to endeavour, as far as in him lay, the Eaſe and Satisfaction of his People, and thinking himſelf obliged to the Performance of it, by thoſe things which Father *Francis de Relux* had ſaid to him, at the time when he was his Confeſſor, acquainted the Duke *de Medina Celi* with his Deſigns to eſtabliſh a particular Council, where all manner of Affairs ſhould be debated; and it ſhould be compoſed of the Conſtable of *Caſtile*, the Marqueſs *de Los Balbazez*, the Inquiſitor General, and *Don Melchior*

chior Navarra. The Chief Miniſter was to be the Head of it, but the King reſerved to himſelf the laſt Reſolutions of things, and all Favours, and Diſpoſals of Places. The Duke approved at firſt of the King's Project, but after he had maturely deliberated upon it, he went to the King on purpoſe to diſſwade him from it, out of an Aſſurance, that the Council of State would be Jealous of it, which was compoſed of ſome of the moſt conſiderable Perſons in the Kingdom; that this would occaſion a vexatious difference between them, and rather hinder the Succeſs and Advancement of Affairs, than promote them. *Don Melchior Navarra,* Vice-Chancellor of *Arragon*, obtained all the Appointments and Profits, which the Preſidents of that Council were formerly uſed to enjoy.

It was not at all queſtioned, but that the Queen-Mother advanced the Dutcheſs *de Albuquerque* to the Place where now ſhe was to be ſeen; and People were as fully perſwaded, that it was ſhe who got the Prince *de Parma* to be ſent into *Flanders,* to recompence the great Zeal he had always expreſſed in her Service. But the Council of State began to be Alarmed at the great Power of this Princeſs. *What is the matter?* would they uſually ſay one to another, *Are we going to have a new Regency, and is the King reſolved to be under Wardſhip again?* What gave them the greateſt occaſion to talk after this manner, was as follows: The Council having, according to the Cuſtom, named Three Subjects for the

Vice-Royſhip of *Peru*, out of which number the King generally chuſes one; his Majeſty, without having any regard to it, named *Don Melchior Navarra*, who had advanced his Fortune by the means of the Queen-Mother, and was abſolutely devoted to her. He was born in *Arragon*, of an obſcure Family, and at firſt was an Advocate, and afterwards a Counſellor at *Naples*; Being come to *Madrid*, he there became Fiſcal to the Council of *Arragon*, and had the good Fortune to pleaſe the Queen-Mother, who was then Regent. She made him Vice-Chancellor of *Arragon*, which is one of the moſt conſiderable Places, out of pure Spight to the Council of State, who oppoſed her, ſo that ſhe could not beſtow this Office upon the Prince *de Stillano*. The *Junčto* of the Government refuſing to admit him, ſhe put the other in his Place, that ſhe might always have one of her own Creatures in that *Junčto*; and beſides this, might always be informed for the time to come, of what was tranſacted there.

The Queen had no ſooner given this Teſtimony of her Affection to *Don Melchior*, but every body ſtood ſurprized to ſee a Man of ſo mean a Birth, advanced to ſo high a Poſt; but when they knew him better, they found him to be a Perſon of great Merit, Experience and Probity. *Don Juan* of *Auſtria*, who was mightily diſpleaſed at his Conduct, baniſhed him, and he came not back to Court till after the Death of that Prince.

The

The Queen-Mother being desirous to make him compleatly happy, got the Vice Royship of *Peru* for him, which is a very Advantageous Post; for in less than five Years time a Man may very well heap up Three Millions by it, without wronging either his own Conscience, or his Neighbour. Just at his departure, they charged him with very rigorous Orders against the Governours of that Kingdom, who had made an ill use of their Power. This Custom has been taken up of a long time; the Poor and Unfortunate only are made Examples, but the rest make a shift to escape well enough, by giving a good round Sum of Money, which perhaps they have extorted from other People. But as it always happens, that one Man's good Fortune proves an Obstacle to that of another, the Marques *de Santa Crux* died of Grief, because he mist this Place. He had been General of the *Spanish* Gallies, and was a Man of Birth and Merit, but so extreamly poor, that he saw nothing else could set him up again, but the Vice-Royship of *Peru*.

He did not question but that they would consider him for the Services of his Ancestors, and remember that the Count *de Chinchon*, his Father, who had been Counsellor of State, was always Faithful to the Crown, and that they would examine his own Personal Merit. He flattered himself, that all these Considerations would infallibly procure him the Vice-Royship of *Peru*. He came on purpose to *Madrid*, to solicite for it; but when he saw

Don

Don Melchior Navarra preferred before him, he could not maſter his Grief, and died within few days after. His Death was attended by that of one of the deareſt Perſons in the World to him, *Donna Antonia de la Cerda*, Daughter to the Duke *de Medina Celi*, and Wife to the Son of the Marqueſs *de Villa Manriquez*. She was very young, and yet extreamly agreeable.

The Ambaſſador of the Eſtates of the United Provinces, had Audience of the King, on the Twentieth of *Auguſt*: He demanded of him the Payment of ſeveral Millions that were due from the Crown of *Spain* to the Admiralty of *Holland*, ever ſince the Year 1675. The King was only pleaſed to ſay, *Veremos*, and that Evening having ſent for the Duke *de Medina Celi* to come to him, *I have never*, ſays he, *ſeen ſo many Debts, and ſo little Money to pay them*; *If this holds, I will give no more Audience to thoſe to whom I am indebted.* The Duke told him, He hoped that in a ſhort time things would be in a better Condition, and that the *Hollanders* were rich enough to ſtay a little longer for their Money.

People talked very ſtrangely at *Madrid*, of the King's recalling the Duke *de Veraguas*, who was Vice-Roy of *Valentia*. This little Kingdom is, as it were, annexed to that of *Arragon*, and is a place where there never fail to be abundance of Murderers, Robbers and Cut-Throats. The malignant influence that reigns here, makes the Men naturally ſo bad, that when there is any ill Action to be done, they

they make uſe of the *Bandoleros*, who are a ſort of *Banditti*, divided into ſeveral Factions, and have each of them their Chief, who are generally ſeditious Perſons, capable of all the Villanies in the World. An Apoſtatized Monk took ſhelter amongſt them, and they found him to be ſo reſolute and hardened a Fellow, that they choſe him for their Captain; but as it happened, the very moment he came to commit an Aſſaſſinate, he was taken with his Sword in his Hand. He could not deny ſo palpable a Crime, and the Vice-Roy was adviſed to execute ſpeedy Juſtice upon him. The Vice-Roy was well enough ſatisfied that he ought to ſerve him ſo; but what gave him ſome trouble, was this, that having to deal with a Religious, he thought, that he ought to uſe more Formality with him. Another Reaſon likewiſe ſtopt him a little; for by the Laws of *Valentia*, ſome days are allotted to Criminals after they are condemned, before their Execution. He ordered Four Religious of different Orders to meet, and conſulted them upon theſe Two Heads: Two of them were of opinion, that he might take Cognizance of this matter with the Archbiſhop's Conſent: The Two others maintained, That although the Laws of the Countrey allow ſome time to a Guilty Perſon, and that this was a Monk belonging to the Eccleſiaſtical Juriſdiction; yet for all that, the King's Service demanded a ſpeedy and ſevere Example; and that the Actions of this Man were ſo abominably odious, that he deſerved to have

no

no Reſpect ſhow'n him. The Duke *de Veraguas* was of their Opinion, and ordered him to be hanged immediately. The Eccleſiaſticks demanded him before Execution; the Archbiſhop ſupported them by his Authority, and when he knew it was to no purpoſe, his Official publiſhed an Interdict. The People immediately made an Inſurrection, and the Vice-Roy was obliged to ſhut himſelf up in his Palace; but being beſieged on every ſide, and apprehending ſome danger from the Violence of the Rabble, he eſcaped out of the City well Accompanied. The Archbiſhop loſt no time to inform the Court of what had happened; the Duke too ſent thither as ſoon, and each of them alledged their Reaſons. Upon this the King ordered a *Juncto* to ſit, compoſed of his own Confeſſor, a Jeſuit, and a Dominican. It happened well for the Archbiſhop that he was of the ſame Order with this laſt, and had been General of his Order; He wanted no more to gain the Cauſe; the Duke *de Veraguas* was condemned with one Conſent, and a Sum of Money was remitted to him, with Orders to come within Twenty Leagues of *Madrid*, and there to wait the King's farther Pleaſure. On the Twenty Sixth of *Auguſt* the Count *de Aquilar* was named to ſucceed him in his Place, and within 24 Hours after he departed, to go and take poſſeſſion of it.

If this Affair, the Judgment whereof appeared too rigorous, made ſo great a Noiſe, the Connivance ſhow'n to the Marqueſs *de Las Navas*,

Navas, Vice-Roy of *Sicily*, ſurprized People no leſs. He merely, for a Humour, perſecuted the Archbiſhop of *Palermo*, ſo as to make him leave the City: The King being informed of the Proceedings, was not only content to Reprimand the Vice-Roy for it, but ordered, That the Archbiſhop ſhould receive particular Satisfaction from him. He wrote a very obliging Letter to this Prelate, wherein he acquainted him how much he was concerned at the Affronts he had received, and ſent it to the Marqueſs *de Navas*, with Orders to deliver it to the Archbiſhop with his own Hands. The Vice-Roy received it, and kept it by him; but they being informed of it at Court, a freſh Injunction was ſent him: He obey'd this no better than the former. This Stiffneſs and Contumacy of his, perfectly wearied the Council, without drawing the leaſt inconvenience upon him; ſo that they no more commanded him to deliver the Letter to the Archbiſhop. It is very certain, that another Man would not have had this Indulgence ſhow'n him; but the Vice-Roy being, it ſeems, obliged to marry his Son to one of the Daughters of the Duke *de Medina Celi*, this is one Reaſon why he was ſure to meet with good Quarter, as long as the Duke continued in Favour. Nevertheleſs, the Marqueſs *de Louvignies*, who was made Governour of *Meſſina*, was no ſooner arrived there, but he was offended to ſee the Fortifications and Garriſon in ſo ill a Condition. He plainly told the Marqueſs *de Las Navas*, That he could not diſ-

diſpence with himſelf from giving the Court an Account of theſe matters. He was as good as his Word, and the Vice-Roy received a ſevere Check for his Negligence.

They had a new occaſion to be diſpleaſed at *Madrid*, when they received Advices of what happened at *Naples*, on the 7*th* of *September*: The Vice-Roy paſſing through the *Toledo-Street*, to go to Viſit the *Spaniſh* Nuns, was ſtopt by an Hundred Troopers, all armed, and on Horſe-back, who Audaciouſly demanded of him, either to pay them off, or elſe to diſmiſs them.

So reſolute an Action as this was, did not a little ſurprize him: He promiſed to do every thing they deſired of him, and returned back again to the Palace very ſuddenly. As ſoon as he believed himſelf to be ſafe, he ordered Six Souldiers to be ſent to Priſon, and their Tryals to come on ſpeedily. He reformed all the Cavalry, together with the Captains, and the other Officers, as well as the Lieutenant General. This Body of Horſe conſiſted of Seven Troops, and had been kept up above Fifty Years. He pretended, That he had received Orders from *Madrid* to reform them after this manner; but the real Truth is, he was not in a condition to pay them. The King of *Spain* hereupon was exceedingly grieved, to behold the Miſery to which all his Kingdoms were reduced.

But all this evil News was ballanced, when they knew that the Plague was intirely ceas'd in *Andaluzia*, and that the Chief Magiſtrate of

of *Cales* finding the Port of St. *Mary* free from the Infection, had taken off the Prohibition of Commerce. After this, they immediately begun to load the Gallions. On the Fifth of *September* there were great rejoicings at Court, becauſe it was the Birth-day of his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty: A Comedy was Acted there, and all the Ambaſſadors and Grandees of *Spain* were preſent at it. The Queen appeared ſo covered with Jewels, that her Diamonds caſt a greater Light than ſix large Flambeaux, as big as Torches did, that were lighted in the Great Hall. A few days after this, the King and the Two Queens went ſolemnly to Chappel, where the Anniverſary of *Philip* IV. was celebrated with great Ceremonies. The Queen being returned to the Palace, found a Sealed Letter in her Pocket, having the ſame Superſcription with that which ſhe formerly received; and ſeeing written on the out-ſide, *For the Queen alone*, ſhe would not open it, and almoſt diſtracted her ſelf in thinking what Perſon it was, that could find the means to come ſo nigh her, as to ſlip this Letter into her Pocket. Towards Evening ſhe went along with the King to the Queen-Mother's Palace, to make her the uſual Complements of Condolance, upon the Death of the late King her Husband. The Dutcheſs *de Medina Celi* told the King, That ſhe had received a Letter from *Iſpahan*, the Capital City of *Perſia*, which had great Curioſities in it. The King replied, That he was deſirous to hear it.

All

All the Company being gone out of the Room, ſhe placed her ſelf near him to read it. The Queen took her Advantage of this Opportunity, and told the Queen-Mother, That ſhe had a great deſire to ſee a Picture of *Titian*, which ſhe had lately bought. As ſhe ſaid theſe Words, ſhe advanced towards the great Cloſet of the Queen-Mother, whither ſhe follow'd her. When they had entred into it, the Young Queen gave her the Letter, which ſhe had found in her Pocket, and deſired her to keep it, or burn it, as ſhe thought moſt convenient. *I don't know*, ſays ſhe, *but it may come from the Dutcheſs* de Terra Nova; *but ſhe ſhall be clearly miſtaken in her Project.* The Queen-Mother told her, That ſhe had beſt open the Letter, to ſee what was contained in it. *Ah, Madam*, replied the Queen, *I would never, by my good Will, ſee any ſuch Letters.* The Queen-Mother admired the prudent Conduct of this Young Princeſs, and bid her not diſquiet her ſelf about the matter; for ſhe would take care to keep it ſealed by her; And ſome time after ſhe recounted this Adventure to the Marchioneſs *de Mortare*, and ſhow'd her the firſt Letter, ſaying, ſhe believed it proceeded from the Malice of ſome Perſons who deſigned to do the Queen a Miſchief. It was through this Lady's Means, that my Couſin and I came to know all that I have written concerning this Affair.

The Queen, and the Queen-Mother did not tarry long together, but came to find the King, who told them, That the Dutcheſs *de*

Me-

Medina Celi had read a Letter to him, wherein was contained a very Tragical ſurpriſing Accident, and that they would by no means think their time loſt to hear it. The Dutcheſs immediately read the Letter; it was dated from *Iſpahan*, the 18*th* of *March*, 1680. and gave an Account, how, That on the 23*d* of *January*, in the ſame Year, the City of *Maſulipatan*, which is the greateſt Scale of Trade in the Kingdom of *Golconda*, had been overflow'd by the Sea, and by extraordinary Rains, accompanied with a furious Hurricane; That above Twenty five thouſand Perſons were drowned there, and that the Loſs of the Goods and Merchandize amounted to Twenty Millions; That it had Rained Blood for the ſpace of Two Hours, in the Village of *Sohou*, near *Deli*, where the *Great Mogul* keeps his Reſidence; and that part of the City of *Sougean*, near *Daera*, had been over-whelmed by an Earthquake: That the *Engliſh* having received Advice, That the *Raja Sevagi*, after he had pillaged the City of *Danga*, threatned to beſiege *Bombay*, (which is a Place that was yeilded up by the *Portugueſes* to them, together with *Tangier*, upon occaſion of the Marriage of the *Infanta Catharina*, Queen of *England*,) had ſent ſome Men of War to *Bombay* to defend it; but that it was very much queſtioned whether they would be able to hold it out againſt a Prince who continued to make his Conqueſts with ſo prodigious a Swiftneſs, and who had already defeated *Cercan Loudi*, a Prince dependant upon the King of *Viſiapour*.

He had poſſeſſed himſelf in leſs than Two Years of all the Territory ſcituate upon the Coaſts of *Coromandel*. The King of *Viſiapour* being concerned at the Misfortune of this Prince, who was juſt upon the point of Marrying the Princeſs *Famika*, his Siſter, deſigned to aſſiſt him, and ſent his Forces under the Command of *Famika*, who was as brave as an *Amazon*, Beautiful and Haughty. The Prince *Sevagi* knowing that ſhe marched againſt him, advanced with his Army, and met her towards the Kingdom of *Golconda*. She ſent a *Zagay* to him, with a Sabre, and writ to him, That in caſe he was ſo pleaſed, they would decide the Quarrel by a ſingle Combat. He accepted the Challenge, took the Arms ſhe ſent him, and returned her other. The Two Armies were drawn out in Battel, with Orders, not to make the leaſt movement as long as the Combat continued. The Princeſs was vanquiſhed, and ſurrendered her ſelf Priſoner. The Prince *Cercan Loudi*, who was with her, was driven into Deſpair, when he ſaw his Miſtreſs taken away from him; he threw himſelf, with his Forces upon thoſe of *Sevagi*, and after a long Combat *Cercan* was taken Priſoner, and the Prince remained Maſter of the Field. After this, he ſtill carried *Famika* along with him; and ſhe appeared ſo charming to him, that he told her, If ſhe was willing to marry him, he would reſtore to *Cercan Loudi* all that he had taken from him by way of Conqueſt. The Princeſs haughtily replied, That ſhe would never ſacrifice

crifice her ſelf to one that was a Subject to the King her Brother. *Sevagi*, who was deeply in Love with her, diſpatched an Envoy to the King of *Viſiapour*, to demand *Famika* of him, and promiſed, That if he would beſtow that Princeſs upon him, he would ſerve him as his Vaſſal. The King ſcorned the Propoſal, treating him as a Revolted Subject, whom he knew well enough how to chaſtiſe. When the other ſaw that gentle Methods ſignified nothing, he preſently fell a Ravaging the Countrey of *Viſiapour*, from *Surat* to *Goa*, except ſix or ſeven Places upon the Coaſts; ſo that his Conqueſts extended as far as *Negapatan*; And this, in all, made near 250 Leagues in length. He always carried his Fair Priſoner along with him, hoping to gain her by his Reſpect and Complaiſance; but having had one day a very long Converſation with her upon this Topick, wherein ſhe declared, That all the Injuries either ſhe, or thoſe of her Family, ſuffered at his Hands, only ſerved to provoke her the more, and that ſhe would never love any one but *Cercan Loudi*, the Love of *Sevagi* was in a moment turned into Fury, and he had the Cruelty to cauſe a Scaffold to be erected for her, where with his own Hands he cut off the Head of the young Princeſs *Famika*, and her Lover.

The Queen-Mother having a great kindneſs for the Marchioneſs *de Grana*, received two of her Daughters, who were very lovely and well ſhaped, into the number of her Ladies.

A ſhort time after, the King, the Two Queens, and all the Court, departed for *Aranjuez*; but the Houſe not being large enough to lodge half the Officers and Ladies, they came back every Night, and lay near it. The Duke *de Uzeda*, the Count *de Altamire*, and the Two Sons of the Duke of *Alva*, diſguiſed themſelves like Muleteers, with Bonnets, after the *Engliſh* Faſhion pulled over their Heads to hide them; and being dreſt after this Faſhion, they went every day on Foot by the Boot of the Coach of the Queen's Maids of Honour, to Court their Miſtreſſes, as the Cuſtom is there.

Although the King had Prohibited all Perſons in General, and Married People in Particular, *Los Galanteos de Palacio*, as they call it, at *Madrid*; yet he was not able to hinder it. It has been a thing eſtabliſhed time out of mind amongſt them, to entertain the Ladies of the Court, with their Gallantry, although they have not the leaſt deſign to marry them: And they wait upon them with as much Aſſiduity as if they were already betrothed to them. But what is the ſtrangeſt, as well as the leaſt pardonable thing of all, is, that they ruine themſelves by it: I have ſeen married men, nay, even thoſe that were Grandfathers, totally taken up in an Amour with one of the Ladies of the Court. The Women, whoſe Husbands are led away with theſe Extravagant Fancies, are extreamly diſguſted at it; and this often occaſions horrid Diſorders in their Families; but all that theſe Cavaliers pre-

pretend to reap by their Paſſion, is only, that their Miſtreſſes will ſuffer them to come and ſtop under their Windows. Here they ſit in the back part of their Coaches, and entertain them by their Fingers, and the Ladies anſwer them after the ſame manner, without ſpeaking to them, but only upon days of Ceremony, for at that time they have the liberty to Accoſt them before all the World. But what is very ſurpriſing, and was never yet practiſed any where elſe, the Ladies of Honour belonging to the Queen, receive Jewels, Apparel, and conſiderable Sums of Money from their Gallants. The Dukes *de Montalte*, and *de Medina Sidonia*, having no Office to oblige them to follow the Court to *Aranjuez*, ſent their Stewards, Cooks, and other Servants, with Gold and Silver Plate, to carry Magnificent Repaſts to their Miſtreſſes, as long as they ſtaid at *Aranjuez*.

The Diverſion there is but little, becauſe the greateſt pleaſure one can take, is to walk along the ſides of the River *Tagus*, which waſh the Banks of the fineſt Walks in the World; but the Rains were ſo great, that no body could ſtir out. When there was the leaſt fair Weather, the Queen rode on Horſe-back with all her Ladies, but one of them had the Miſchance to be carried away by her Horſe, and received ſo much hurt by her Fall, that ſhe died within three days after. This ill Accident troubled the King exceedingly, ſo that by his good Will, he would not ſuffer the Queen to ride; When he ſaw her not, he would ſtill

be crying, *Let ſome body go to ſee how my Queen does, and bring me word, whether ſhe is fallen off her Horſe.* The King was informed at *Aranjuez*, that Two *Portugueſe* Men of War, in their return to *Lisbon*, had met a *French* Veſſel, commanded by the Chevalier *de Leti*: He demanded the Salute of them; and upon their refuſing to do it, gave them a Broad-ſide, which they anſwered with all their Guns; but after a long diſpute, he obliged them to ſtrike the Flag. After this, the Veſſel continued its courſe towards *Villa Franca*, where the Ambaſſador of *Savoy* waited to be carried over to *Portugal*. Upon this the King of *Spain* told the Duke *de Medina Celi*, that there was no queſtion to be made but his Gallies would be ſerved after the ſame manner, if they were not better provided.

The King had a mighty deſire when he parted from *Madrid*, to go immediately to the *Eſcurial*, but he could not fully reſolve to carry the Queen along with him thither, till he had ſtaid ſome time at ſome of the other Houſes belonging to the Kings of *Spain*. He had been told, That it was looked upon to be an ill Omen to go firſt to the place where the Royal Tombs are; and ſince the Queen had as yet been only at *Buen Retiro*, *à la Caſa del Campo*, at *Pardo*, and *Zarzuela*, which are ſo near *Madrid*, that ſhe juſt reſted her ſelf there a few hours after ſhe came from hunting, He was reſolved to begin with *Aranjuez*, to avert and fruſtrate thoſe evil Preſages: Therefore he ordered every thing to be in readineſs for his

his Journey, by the beginning of *September*, which is one of the fineſt Months of the Year in *Spain*; but the Miniſters not finding Money enough in the Treaſury to defray the Expences of the Progreſs, dexterouſly endeavoured to put it by, though in all appearance they ſeem'd to deſire it as much as the King did, and daily ordered Mules to be got ready to carry the Baggage. They pretended the Ways were dangerous and bad, and at laſt, that the great Rains had corrupted the Air. Nay, they ſent for ſome Phyſicians, with whom they had been practiſing, to confirm all they ſaid. Notwithſtanding theſe Reaſons, the King ſtill perſiſted in his Reſolution to go to *Aranjuez*, and did not know till the very Evening before he was to depart, that he could not go. He was the only Perſon that was ignorant of it; for the Miniſters had acquainted their Friends with it above Twelve Days before, and all the City was informed, that the King was to ſtay at *Madrid* ſtill. The Queen was not a little diſpleaſed at theſe Proceedings; ſhe ſpoke to the King about it, and told him, that the Miniſters might now very well forbear to uſe them any longer like Children; that if there had been any important Reaſons why they ſhould not go to *Aranjuez*, they ought to have given them timely notice of it; but to put them off, and, ſpeaking properly, to fool them after this inſufferable rate, was never to be endured. The King was vexed, and told the Queen, That this ſhould be the laſt time he would ſuffer ſuch things at

their hands, and that they ſhould direct themſelves for the future only by his Will and Pleaſure. This Diſcourſe was over-heard by ſome of the Gentlemen of the Bed-Chamber, who went preſently to acquaint the Duke *de Medina Celi* with it, to make their Court by this means. He was terribly diſheartned, and feared leaſt the Queen, who was charming and witty, might come to get a greater Aſcendant over the King's Inclinations than he deſired; and therefore that he might not diſpleaſe the King any more, uſed all imaginable diligence to provide a Fund ſufficient to bear the Expences of going to *Aranjuez* and the *Eſcurial*. Till this very moment he had reſolved to break off theſe Two Journeys; but he apprehended a great deal of danger from the Queen's diſſatisfaction; and ſo to get a Sum neceſſary for the occaſion, he ſold Two Offices of the *Contador Major* for Twenty five thouſand Crowns, and received Forty more for a Government in the *Indies*. He took Fifty thouſand Crowns out of an Hundred thouſand, that were to be laid out in Equipping of the Gallions. He made uſe of the Money gathered for Cuſtom, that was to have paid off the the Rights of the Franchiſes, and the Revenues of the Town-Hall: In a word, every thing was got ready by that time the Court came back from *Aranjuez*, for them to go to the *Eſcurial*. However, the King was not able to go as ſoon as he deſired, by reaſon that the ill Weather increaſed; ever ſince the beginning of *September* never a day paſſed without

without violent Tempeſts, accompanied by dreadful Claps of Thunder: The Lightning ſtruck abundance of Perſons in ſeveral Places, and the Hail fell ſo thick, and in ſuch prodigious quantities in the Forreſt of the *Pardo*, which is an Houſe of pleaſure belonging to the King, that it broke the Branches of the greateſt Trees, and killed ſo many Birds and Wild Fowl, that both the Fields and the River of *Mancanarez*, were covered with them, and it was the moſt ſurpriſing ſight in the World to behold; the Ancient Bridge *de Aranda de Ducro*, was carried away by the Waters of that River, and the *Tagus* over-flow'd its Banks with that Impetuoſity, that it did an incredible Miſchief to the pleaſant Walks at *Aranjuez*. So many Accidents, of which they received freſh News daily, troubled the Court exceedingly; for there was ſcarce a place in *Spain* exempt from theſe continual Tempeſts: One of them happened on the *26th* of *September*, in ſo out-ragious a manner, that the Gardens of the Counteſs *de Ognate*, which are the fineſt in *Madrid*, were overflown in a moment; the Water entred into the lower Apartments of her Houſe, where ſhe kept her Nobleſt *Italian* Paintings, and her richeſt Moveables, and all was intirely ſpoiled by this Inundation. The Torrent, to work out its paſſage, threw down the Garden-Walls, and broke into that belonging to our Ladies *de Atocha*. The next Night we all thought that *Madrid* would be beaten down about our Ears by the Thuder claps, the Lightning, the Wind,

the

the Rain, and the Hail. I don't believe any body went to Bed in the whole City; the Churches were full of People who confeſſed, as if the hour of Death were approaching. The Water of the *Mancanarez* ſwelled exceedingly, and ſpread it ſelf on all ſides. The King and the Queen, who impatiently waited for day light, went in Devotion to our Ladies *de Atocha*, but at their return they found the *Prado* overflown; And though a Coach had been overturned a little before, by the Rapidity of the Torrent, the King believed that his might paſs it well enough, and commanded the Coachman to advance ſpeedily forward towards the Bridge of the bare-legged *Auguſtines*: Within a few Paces of the Bridge the two fore Mules, which in *Spain* are at a pretty diſtance from the hindmoſt, were overturned by the Impetuoſity of the Water: The Poſtillion that led them 'ſcaped very narrowly; the Mules recovered themſelves twice, and were thrown down as often. The King was all alone in the Coach with the Queen, very much concerned, and telling her, that he was in pain only for her ſake. In the mean time ſome People got hold by the Traces, and ſo drew out the Coach by meer Strength. By this means the Mules got out of the Water; but their Majeſties could not reach the Palace, and being affrighted at the great danger they had juſt eſcaped, were obliged to go to *Buen-Retiro*, where they tarried till mid-night, and waited for the Waters to fall.

The

The Marqueſs *de los Velez*, Vice-Roy of *Naples*, diſpatched a Courier to Court, to give them Advice, That the Pope had demanded of them to ſend the Marqueſs *Sera*, a *Genoeſe*, to him, who was Excommunicated for falling foul upon the Apoſtolick *Nuncio's* Courier on *Maunday Thurſday*. The Brief ſpecified, *That his Holineſs grounded his Pretenſions upon the Right of Soveraignty the Holy See had to the Kingdom of* Naples. The Officers of all the Courts of Judicature Aſſembled upon it, and reſolved not to comply with the Pope's Deſires, by Reaſon of the ill Conſequences that might attend ſuch an Affair. But the King, and the Miniſters here, could not forbear to wonder, that his Holineſs ſpoke of renewing his Pretenſions, which ſeemed to be adjuſted a long time ago.

The only Son of the Marqueſs *de Caſtel-Rodrigo* died about the beginning of *October*, as did alſo *Don Rui Gomez de Silva*, Brother to the Duke *de Hijar*: We may ſay, they were two of the moſt handſome and hopeful Lords at Court. This laſt was mightily devoted to *Donna Iſabella de Mendoza*, a Lady of great Beauty, who was not compleatly Seventeen Years old. She took the Death of her Lover ſo much to heart, that without acquainting her Mother with it, ſhe got out of her Houſe, covered in a Mantle, and went to the * *Deſcalſas Reales*, there to take upon her the Religious Habit.

* *A Monaſtery founded by* Joanna, *Siſter to* Philip IV.

Their

Their Majeſties parted from *Madrid* on the *7th* of *October*, to go to the *Eſcurial*. The King only carried with him the Duke *de Medina Celi*, the Grand Maſter of the Houſhold, with two Maſters of the Houſe in Ordinary, the Great Forreſter; and the Firſt Gentleman of the Bed-Chamber, and two other Lords in the ſame Office, *Don Geronimo de Eguya*, Secretary of State, and the Marqueſs *de Grana*, Ambaſſador from the Emperour. The Admiral of *Caſtile*, who was Maſter of the Horſe, did not arrive there till Fourteen Days after the King: he was naturally ſo lazy, even when he was obliged to make his Court, that he could not reſolve in a leſs time to go to the *Eſcurial*.

All the Ladies of the Court, and Six Women of the Bed-Chamber, Accompanied the Queen; The Marqueſs *de Villa Maina*, Chief Gentleman of the Bed-Chamber, and the Marqueſs *de Aſtorgas*, Grand Maſter of the Houſhold, went along with her. As for the Duke *de Oſſone*, who was Maſter of the Horſe to her, he tarried at *Madrid*, upon the Account of a New Diſguſt he had received at Court. The King was willing that the Queen ſhould ride on Horſe-back, to take a few turns in the Walks of the Meadows, and to meet him as he came from hunting. She had Four Fits of an Ague, but the following ones were ſo gentle, that ſhe was able to get up a few days after, and divert her ſelf, as ſhe had uſed to do ever ſince her Arrival to the *Eſcurial*.

The

The King, who was altogether taken up with the Pleaſures of hunting, purſued the Sport from Sun riſing till Night. One day he ordered a Chaſe to be prepared after the *German* manner; they had Toils, which incloſed a great quantity of Ground, and here with their Guns they killed above two hundred Bucks or Does. The Queen was at firſt deſirous to be there, but being informed after what manner they uſed theſe poor Creatures, ſhe imagined that ſuch a ſight would rather give her occaſion to employ her Pity, than afford her any Pleaſure. The King in all his Chaſes generally took no more with him than the firſt Gentleman of the Bed-Chamber, and the Great Forreſter; he loved to find himſelf alone in vaſt Solitudes, and ſometimes it was a long while before they could find him. When he hunted after the *German* manner, he would be accompanied by the Duke *de Medina Celi*, and the Marqueſs *de Grana*. At his return, the Chief Miniſter following the King to the Queen's Apartment, found that her Majeſty did not caſt her Eyes upon him, he immediately penetrated into the Reaſon of this Alteration he found in the Queen's Behaviour; for to ſay the truth, ſhe was diſpleaſed with him for diſſwading his Majeſty to expedite a Patent for a Government in the *Indies*, which he had granted to her: But when the Duke knew it, he told the King, That the Queen begged this Grace of him, at the intreaty of one of the Women of her Bed-Chamber, who was a *French* Woman, who would get con-

conſiderably by it, when in the mean time twelve thouſand Piſtols were offered for it. The King thought it was the beſt way to take this Sum, and after this would not hear the leaſt Word of diſpatching the Patent, as he had promiſed.

But what provoked the Queen infinitely more, was the Conduct he had uſed in her Abſence towards the Conſtable *Colonna*'s Lady. The Dutcheſs *de Medina Celi* had paſſed her Word to the Queen, as in her Husband's Name, That during the ſtay her Majeſty made at the *Eſcurial*, nothing ſhould be done to the prejudice of this Lady. Notwithſtanding theſe Aſſurances, upon which ſhe depended, ſhe was carried away from *Madrid*, and by an Order from the King, confined to the Caſile of *Segovia*. To begin this Story from its Original, the Reader is to know, that this Lady was Niece to the late Cardinal *Mazarine*: She brought a very conſiderable Fortune with her at her Marriage; and perhaps the Family of the *Colonna*'s had ſunk very low without this ſeaſonable Relief. After ſhe had paſſed the happieſt and moſt pleaſant part of her Life at *Rome*, where ſhe always appeared in great Pomp and Splendor, having the liberty to live after the *French* Faſhion, and according to all Appearances, ſeeming to be content with her Fortune: She withdrew all on the ſudden, without ſo much as knowing the Reaſon of it her ſelf, through the ill Counſels of ſome Perſons, who hazarded not a lit-

a little upon her Account, in making her hazard every thing on her ſide: So that ſhe departed privately with the Dutcheſs of *Mazarine*, her Siſter. They had diſguiſed themſelves ſo well, that none knew them when they took Shipping: And thus they arrived ſafely in *France*. The Conſtable *Colonna*'s Lady hoped to find here a Sanctuary againſt her Husband, and ſome vain flattering Idea's, that were not as yet perfectly extinguiſhed in her Heart, ſerved to perſwade her, that ſhe ſhould be well received at Court; but ſo far was ſhe from meeting any Encouragement to make her Appearance there, that ſhe was prohibited by the King to come there. I have heard her ſay, That ſhe reſented this Treatment with ſo ſenſible a Grief, that ſhe was like to have died of it. After this ſhe went to *Turin*, where ſhe made a ſhort ſtay, and the uneaſineſs of her Mind led her at laſt to *Flanders*. There ſhe happened to find the Marqueſs *de Borgomaine*, of the Houſe of *Eſte*, in whom ſhe repoſed an intire Confidence, without remembring that he was rather a Friend to her Husband than to her ſelf. He flattered her in all her Projects, in order to amuſe her, and to gain time till he might receive Advice from the Conſtable, how to diſpoſe of her; for he had ſent him a Letter by a Courier for that purpoſe, to inform him, that his Wife was at *Bruſſels*; and in Anſwer to it, the Conſtable earneſtly deſired him to Seize and Apprehend her. He acquitted himſelf immediately of his Commiſſion, and carried her to a Convent,

vent, from whence ſhe was not to depart, unleſs ſhe would conſent to be Shipt for *Spain*, as they deſired her. When ſhe was at *Madrid* ſhe delay'd, upon ſeveral Pretences, to take the Religious Habit upon her; ſhe loved her Liberty, and was deſirous ſtill to enjoy it: But the Conſtable being informed of her Arrival, ſent *Don Fernand de Colonna*, his Natural Brother, with Letters to the King, and the Miniſters, wherein he beſeech'd them, that either by fair means, or Violence they would oblige his Lady to enter into a Convent. This Neceſſity ſeemed very hard to her; nevertheleſs ſhe ſubmitted to it, and retired to the Monaſtery *de Santo Domingo el Real*, upon Condition, That if ſhe happened to come out of it, ſhe would conſent that the King ſhould reſtore her to her Husband. She continued there a long time, and ſometimes in an Evening ſhe eſcaped out with one of her Women, and often went to walk on Foot in a White Mantle in the *Prado*, where ſhe met with ſeveral pleaſant Adventures, becauſe moſt of the Women that come there are Ladies-Adventurers; and ſome Ladies of the beſt Quality at Court, take a mighty pleaſure when they can go thither, and are not known.

The Conſtable *Colonna* being come to *Madrid*, in his way to *Arragon*, whereof he was Vice-Roy, went every day to entertain her at this Grate, and I have ſeen him ſhow thoſe Gallantries to her, which a Lover may ſhow to his Miſtreſs. He departed in a very good underſtanding with her; but when the Queen made

made her Entry, ſhe having a great deſire to behold her Majeſty, did not imagine they would hold her ſo ſtrictly to the Word ſhe had given the King, That in caſe ſhe ever quitted the place of her Confinement, he ſhould deliver her into her Husband's Hands: So without any more a-do, ſhe went to the Marchioneſs *de Los Balbazez*, her Siſter in Law, who received her very kindly, and the Marqueſs made her an Entertainment that might have deceived a Perſon of leſs Faith than her ſelf. Seeing theſe fair Appearances ſhe thought no more of returning to *Santo Domingo*, but ſtaid with the Marchioneſs *de Los Balbazez*. All this while he ſecretly endeavoured to get an Order from the King, and as ſoon as he had procured it, carried her to a Convent within Four Leagues of *Madrid*. So ſevere a Procedure afflicted her as much as it is poſſible for a Woman to be afflicted. She wrote to the Queen to demand her Protection; and being informed, that the Conſtable was come back from *Arragon*, with his Sons, ſhe obtained a permiſſion of the King to go into ſome Monaſtery or other at *Madrid*. But whether it were, that ſhe was not content to be there, or that ſhe had ſome other Views in her Head, ſhe made her eſcape, and went ſtrait to her Husband's Houſe: She lived in one half of it, made her Court very regularly to the Queen, viſited abundance of Ladies, and diverted her ſelf very well.

The Conſtable left her an intire Liberty to do what ſhe pleaſed; but when he was deſi-

rous to return to *Rome*, he talked of carrying his Lady along with him thither. She was mightily Alarmed at it, and declared, that ſhe would not go. The Reaſon was, becauſe ſhe had got her Nativity to be Calculated, and it was told her, That if ſhe had another Child, ſhe ſhould die. This Prediction was ſo freſh in her imagination, that ſhe would rather chuſe to return to her old Place of Retreat. The King was urgent with her to explain her meaning; She ſent him Word back again, That ſhe humbly requeſted him to grant her his Protection, in the deſign ſhe had to throw her ſelf into a Convent.

The King judged it convenient, That the Inquiſitor General, *Don Melchior Navarra*, and his Confeſſor, ſhould meet to determine this difference between the Conſtable and his Lady. The Marqueſs *de Los Balbazez* ſollicited ſo powerfully, that the *Juncto* concluded to ſend her to the Caſtle of *Segovia*. This he ſo paſſionately deſired, that all the laſt Year he was perpetually troubling his Brain, how to do her ſome ill Office. But the Conſtable of *Caſtile*, and the Admiral, ſet themſelves all they could to oppoſe it; and they were not able to obtain an Order for it.

They had never obtained one, if the Duke *de Medina Celi* had not been an Enemy to the Conſtable's Lady. She being informed of what had paſt againſt her, and what Reaſons ſhe had to apprehend ſome Miſchief from her Enemies, caſt her ſelf at the Queen's Feet, and conjured her, with Tears in her Eyes, not to aban-

abandon her in this diſtreſs, but to engage the Chief Miniſter to paſs his Word, that nothing ſhould be attempted againſt her as long as the Court was at the *Eſcurial*. The Queen interpoſed in this Affair, as I have already mentioned; but notwithſtanding all this Precaution, within Eight Days after her departure, a Counſellor of the Council Royal, with his Officers, Accompanied by the Conſtable *Colonna*, and the Marqueſs *de Los Balbazez*, who performed the Office of Bailiffs, being all Armed, as if they had been going to apprehend a Ring-Leader of Robbers, rather than an unfortunate Lady, who was not capable of making the leaſt Reſiſtance, went about Eleven a Clock at Night to break open the Doors of her Apartment, although it was within her Husband's Houſe. She was in her Chamber, when immediately an *Alcalde* of the Court pretended to tie her Arms with a Cord: Seeing her ſelf uſed after ſo ignominious a manner, ſhe took up a little Knife, which lay accidentally upon the Table; and as ſhe defended her ſelf, gave him a cut in the Hand. This Reſiſtance made the reſt of the Company fall upon her with that barbarous Fury, that they dragged the poor Lady, half naked, as ſhe was, by the Hairs of her Head, and ſo they forced her away, like one of the moſt miſerable of her Sex. She was conducted after this manner all Night long to the Caſtle of *Segovia*, without expreſſing the leaſt conſideration either for her Birth or Reputation, although ſhe had given them no occaſion

to treat her thus; for in fine, ſhe was actually at that time in her Husband's Houſe, and her only Crime was, her refuſing to return to *Rome* with the Conſtable, although ſhe offered to go into a Convent, without having the liberty ever to leave it. Moſt Perſons pitied her ſorrowful Condition, and took it ill that they broke their Promiſe to the Queen, and that they durſt employ the King's Name, only to ſatisfie the Malice and Animoſity of the Marqueſs *de Los Balbazez*. It was for his ſake principally that they uſed this Perſecution towards the Conſtable's Lady; for her Husband was one of the beſt Conditioned Men in the World: He loved her, and as he had formerly given her his conſent to ſtay ſeveral Years in a Religious Houſe; ſo without queſtion he had not now oppoſed the Conditions ſhe deſired, if it had not been for the Marqueſs *de Los Balbazez*.

He alone managed this Affair, and ſollicited the Duke *de Medina Celi* in the Conſtable's Name; and that Miniſter thinking by this means to oblige both of them, gave his conſent to what was demanded of him.

Nevertheleſs it was a ſurpriſing thing, that he uſed ſo rude a Conduct towards the Conſtable's Lady; it had been a more Generous and Manly Part, to endeavour to reconcile the preſent Differences, than to impriſon a Lady who was to be Mother in Law to his own Daughter. He ought to have conſidered, that a Husband and Wife are eaſily brought to accommodate matters; and that if ever they came

came to be Friends again, his Daughter would fall into the Hands of the Conſtable's Lady, who would then be in a condition to revenge her ſelf upon her for the Injuries he had done her. He might reaſonably imagine, that as ſhe was rich, and had a great number of near Relations, who made a conſiderable Figure in the World: ſo they would never ſee her oppreſt, without regretting her Misfortunes, and intereſting themſelves in her Quarrel: That they would vigorouſly endeavour to procure her her Liberty, and that at the bottom, when he came to caſt up his Accounts, he himſelf would get nothing but ill will by it.

This Affair made a great Noiſe in the World: I knew every particular circumſtance of the Story, becauſe I was intimately acquainted with this Unfortunate Lady, and knew her to be of a good Diſpoſition, and not given to ſpeak ill of other People, and, as it was truly ſaid of her, ſhe was never an Enemy to any one but her ſelf. Indeed it were to be wiſhed, ſhe had been Miſtreſs of more Diſcretion, and had not been of ſo eaſie a Temper as to believe thoſe *Perſons* who adviſed her ill. She was very lovely, although ſhe was not in the Prime of her Youth; her Eyes were lively, quick and piercing, her Teeth admirable, her Hair blacker than Jet, and in a great quantity; her Stature Noble, and her Leg well-ſhaped. The Queen being informed of her Misfortunes, was mightily concerned at them, and continued to be very angry with the Duke *de Medina Celi*, for not keeping his Promiſe to her.

The Calamities occaſioned by the Plague, were not the only Evils which the People of *Spain* ſuffered. The publick Poverty ſpread it ſelf farther ſtill, for the ſcarcity of Proviſions continued, and no Remedies were applied to rectifie theſe Diſorders. No alteration was made in the Government, and the Chief Miniſter ſeemed to be poſſeſſed with a Lethargy. Every body hung down his Head, and Men were ſo enfeebled, that they had ſcarce ſtrength enough to lift up their Eyes and Hands to Heaven to implore its Aſſiſtance and Relief. The paſt and preſent Miſeries made them apprehend what was to follow; every one made melancholy Reflections upon the ſad condition of Affairs, which carried them further than they deſired: But to compleat the general Calamity, after they had for ſix Weeks together beheld terrible Inundations that did a world of Miſchief in ſeveral goodly Cities, theſe Accidents were followed by an Earthquake, which happened two days after the King's departure to the *Eſcurial*. We perceived it at *Madrid* on the 9*th*. of *October*, between ſix and ſeven a Clock in the Morning; it was ſo violent, that it made a general Concuſſion, and the moſt Reſolute Perſons were poſſeſs'd with fear. This extraordinary Motion was perceived all the Kingdom over, and even at *Lisbon*, and the other parts of *Portugal*; but the City of *Malaga* found the ſaddeſt Effects, and ſuſtained the greateſt Loſs by it.

This

This City is ſituated in the Kingdom of *Granada* upon the Coaſts of the Mediterranean Sea, within Twenty five Leagues of the *Streights*, at the foot of a Mountain, upon the top of which ſtands a Caſtle that Commands the Town and the Port. It is large, well peopled, and rich, by reaſon of the conſiderable Trade they drive in *Spaniſh* Wine, Oyl, Citrons, Fruits, and other Commodities, which draw a vaſt number of Veſſels to that Port. Its Fortifications, although they are Old, are very good, and are adorned with ſeveral ſtately Buildings, which are remainders of the Magnificence of the *Moors*, and the Cathedral Church was formerly the Principal Moſque.

They perceived there a great Trembling of the Earth, which laſted but a few moments, however the concuſſions were ſo violent, that they cauſed a general fear and deſolation in in the City by the ſtrange diſorders it occaſioned. The Harbour, and the Walls on the ſame ſide, with their Bulwarks, Towers, and Ramparts were overthrown; the Sea was in ſo extraordinary an agitation, that the Fiſhes every where leapt out of the Water; the Veſſels that were in the Port were lifted up above Twenty Foot high, and all their ſides crack'd as if they had been in a real Tempeſt, ſo that the Mariners believed they were unavoidably loſt. Fifteen Convents of Men and Women were ruined after that manner, that ſcarce one ſtone lay upon another; and in that of the Obſervance of St. *Francis*, there were fourteen perſons buried in the Ruins.

This Magnificent Church, which had been enlarged and beautified in the Year 1521. leaned ſeveral times on its two ſides ready to overturn, and yet received no damage, which the Inhabitants took for a Miracle. 1300 Houſes were ſorely battered, and more than 1200 ruined. 'Tis eaſie to judge what a vaſt number of perſons muſt have been killed, hurt, and buried in this Confuſion. As ſoon as the Earthquake had ceaſed, the Biſhop, followed by his Clergy, and a great multitude of people, went in Proceſſion to the Church, to implore the Divine Commiſeration. Aſſuredly in theſe ſorts of Occaſions the moſt irreligious hardned perſons pray heartily and ſincerely.

The Inhabitants being affrighted, retired into the Country, fearing to be overwhelmed in the City by ſome new Concuſſion, but ſeveral Houſes fell down all about *Malaga*; a great Mountain was perfectly overthrown, the Earth opened in abundance of places, and caſt up the Water in ſuch prodigious quantities, that great Torrents were occaſioned by it, which ſwelled the Rivers ſo as to make them overflow their Banks. 'Twas obſervable that the Wall of the Church *d' Alhavrin* opened it ſelf the breadth of four foot, and afterwards cloſed again, ſo that the place where this fiſſure happened, could not be diſcerned. The Jaſper Pillars in the ſame Church were removed from their Pedeſtals, but afterwards returned to their old place, and ſuſtained no damage. At the City of *Velez Malaga* the Earth opened and ſwallowed up a River which runs near it,

after

after this it cloſed again with ſo terrible a noiſe, and threw up the Water with ſo great a violence, that it roſe above ten Pikes higher than the Houſes, and had like to have overwhelmed every thing when it fell down.

Several Cities here were entirely overthrown, and the Earthquake did a great deal of Miſchief at *Sevil*, *Corduba*, and at *Jaen*, where Palaces and Churches, and many Houſes were ruined. It is impoſſible for any thing in Nature to be more terrible than this was, for no body knew where to ſave themſelves, and Death ſeemed to purſue them where-ever they fled.

A few days after this Earthquake, there happened at Night a Tempeſtuous Storm, which overturned part of the Roof of the *Eſcurial*, broke the Cryſtal Windows of the King's Apartment, and tore up abundance of Trees in the Garden by the Roots. The King perceiving the Queen to be affrighted at it, was ſo complaiſant as to riſe with her, and ſent for ſome Company to come to her Chamber, and comfort her a little.

It has been a Cuſtom long ago eſtabliſhed in *Spain*, that when any thing happens, the truth of which they cannot immediately diſcover, for the Miniſters to ſuſpect that *France* had a hand in it. Thus they had received certain Advice, that the Count *d'Eſtrées* had ſailed with ſeveral Men of War in his Company for the *Weſt-Indies*, and therefore they preſently concluded, that it was he who burnt *Porto-bello*; but they were informed of the con-

contrary by two Veſſels, which were arrived from the *Honduras* at the Port of *Cales*, laden with ſix thouſand Cheſts of *Indigo*, and two hundred thouſand *Piaſters*. Theſe brought word, that ſome *Bucaniers*, commanded by an *Engliſh-man*, had landed at the Port *de Baſtimentos*, and after five days march in the Mountains, had attacqued *Porto-bello*; that the *Spaniſh* Garriſon threw away their Arms, and retired without fighting a ſtroke into the Citadel; that a poor *Negro*, who was Seventy Years old, had marched out of it, followed by twenty five Soldiers, and made a brave Reſiſtance, but was killed upon the place, being abandoned by his Men. The *Bucaniers* carried away thirty ſix Thouſand Crowns, and all the Booty they were able to take with them. In fine, having paſſed the Gulf of *Darien*, and being conducted by the *Indians* that were Enemies to the *Spaniards*, they arrived through unknown ways in nine days to the South Sea, within a League of *Panama*: They imbarked in this place in ſome *Canoos*, and paſſed by Port *de Perico*, where they made themſelves Maſters of three Veſſels, and ſeveral Barks. They went from thence to pillage the Suburbs of *Panama*, the Garriſon of which place, without making any Reſiſtance, retired to a Baſtion, with the Preſident and the Auditors of the Exchequer. The *Bucaniers* continued ſome days Maſters of the Sea, but at laſt departed, upon Information that a Relief of Four Hundred Men was coming from *Cartagena*, and that two Veſſels were ſetting Sail

Sail from *Lima*, to oppoſe their Deſigns. The Council of the *Indies*, highly provoked againſt the *Spaniſh* Soldiers, who had ſhewd ſo little courage upon this Occaſion, aſſembled at *Madrid*, and reſolved to ſend Three Hundred *Veterane* Soldiers to reinforce the Garriſons. They gave full Authority to *Don Melchior Navarra*, who was named to go Vice-Roy for *Peru*, to Condemn without Appeal the Officers and other Soldiers that were found guilty, and to decimate them, in caſe he found them all in fault, as it was believed here.

It was no ſmall Mortification to them to hear of the taking of a Veſſel belonging to the King of *Spain*, the Lading whereof was computed to be worth Four Hundred Thouſand Crowns in Goods. Six Ships of the Elector of *Brandenburgh* took her near *Oſtend*. This Prince was highly enraged at the ill Treatment of his Envoy, and it ſeems the Menaces he gave them juſt as he left *Madrid*, were not without effect. 'Twas believed here, that he had done himſelf too much Juſtice; but others, who conſidered this Action without prejudice, were agreed, that it was but Natural for the Elector of *Brandenburgh* to make recourſe to violence, after the unfair meaſures they had kept with him, which he had ſo much the leſs Reaſon to expect, becauſe he was devoted to the Intereſts of the Houſe of *Auſtria*, and had chiefly ſupported it in the laſt War. But if theſe Reaſons ſerved to excuſe him, there were others that laid ſome blemiſh upon him, to uſe ſuch an Action of

Hoſti-

Hoſtility towards a King, with whom he was in Peace, and who had never failed on his ſide to ſatifie him, unleſs he had been utterly uncapable of paying him: That at the very time when the Envoy from *Brandenburgh* demanded the Money, the King of *Spain* had not enough to defray the Expences of his Houſhold, and that if he had been in other circumſtances, he had dealt better by him.

The Court was not a little troubled at this infraction of the Peace, and now they had a freſh Argument to grieve them. They were informed that the *Portugueſes* pretended to keep the Iſland of St. *Gabriel* to themſelves, and that although *Buenoſaires* lay ſo near it, yet they were in a condition to maintain themſelves there. The Coaſt of *Braſil* lying ſo near favoured them, as well as the River, whoſe Channel is ſo very narrow in that place, that it was an eaſie matter to Command it, and to hinder all Commerce. The *Portugueſes* it ſeems had entred the River *de Plata*; and all theſe circumſtances were the more afflicting, becauſe it was certainly known that a Squadron of *Brandenburghers* was gone for the *Indies*. This Affair was much talked of, and the Council met about it: But thoſe that were well acquainted with the Genius of the *Spaniſh* Nation, were ſatisfied that the Alarm would not laſt very long, becauſe at Court they look upon dangers, that are at any diſtance, but as ſo many things that will never happen.

The King and Queen being come back to *Madrid* from the *Eſcurial*, every one was very for-

forward to make his Court to them; and on the Fourth of *November*, which was the Feſtival of St. *Charles*, His Majeſty went to the Chappel in the Palace, where the Embaſſadors of crowned Heads appeared to Complement him, and ſeveral of the Grandees of *Spain*, who kiſſed his Hand according to the Cuſtom. The King was dreſs'd in a Suit, the Ground-ſtuff whereof was black, with flowers of Gold, Embroidered with Pearls, and a large Diamond in the midſt of every Flower. His Chain, to which the Order of the Fleece was faſtened, glittered with ſeveral Emeralds half a finger long. The Queen-Mother writ to the Queen in the Morning, deſiring her to dreſs her ſelf that day after the *French* Faſhion. The Queen carried this Billet to the King, and after ſhe had read it to him, asked him, if he would agree to it? He told her, ſhe look'd ſo pretty in her *Spaniſh* dreſs, that he pray'd her not to quit that Habit on a day of Rejoycing.

The King took away the Receipt and Adminiſtration of the Revenues of *Madrid* from the *Corregidors* and *Regidors*, when he knew their Cheats and Villanies. He entruſted the Management of them to a Council compoſed of four perſons, *Don Lopez de los Rios*, *Don Andrea Villaran*, *Don Franciſco Carillo*, and *Don Joſeph Benavidez*; and empowred them to make the *Regidors* give them an Account of their Adminiſtration. They were Accuſed to have gotten the Sum of Eight Hundred Thouſand Crowns by the Expences of the Queen's Entry,

try, and by the Building of the New Bridge at *Toledo*, which was carried away by the Waters of the *Mancanares*. At the ſame time the Collecting of the Impoſts upon Wine, Victuals, and Coals, was taken away from them. Theſe Alterations diminiſhed the Profits of their Offices ſo mightily, that they could ſcarce get any people to bid Six Thouſand Ducats for them, whereas before this Reformation it was an uſual thing to give Ninety Thouſand, although the Sallaries were not above Six Hundred Ducats.

The Chief Miniſter had ſent a Commiſſioner ſome Months before to the Frontiers of *Biſcay*, to adjuſt the Rights of both ſides with the *French*, but he being fond of his Commiſſion, endeavoured to prolong it, and ſo decided none of the Differences. There were ſome Regiments at *Bayonne* poſted all along the River of *Bidaſſoa*, and ſome Brigandines blocked up the Mouth of it to hinder the Inhabitants of *Fontarabia* from all manner of Traffick. They could not go out to Fiſh, or commit any of thoſe Acts of Hoſtility, to which they had been ſo long accuſtomed: And now they were given to underſtand that they ſhould be kept thus impriſoned till the Court of *Spain* had conſented to a Reaſonable Accommodation. Whilſt matters continued in this poſture, the Brigandines pretended to go away; immediately the *Biſcayners* began to Fiſh, but the *French* coming back upon them, carried them away Priſoners, and made themſelves Maſters of their Barks. As ſoon as this

News

News was brought to *Madrid*, the Miniſters began to exclaim that this was an unheard of Violence, and ſuch an infraction of the Peace, as was never to be endured. But his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty ordered his Ambaſſador to acquaint them that they then ought to remove the difficulties, which occaſion'd ſo many Diſorders; or till they were regulated to conſent to follow the deciſions which the Commiſſioners of *France* had made after the Treaty of Peace.

A Perſon of the firſt Quality who had followed the King to the *Eſcurial*, and came back from thence before him, told us, that he had ſtrong conjectures to believe that the Duke *de Medina Celi* had fallen out with the Queen Mother. However, few Perſons ſuſpected it at that time; but after the return of the Court to *Madrid*, it was plain and viſible. Some People pretend that the Duke was wearied with the great number of Creatures, whom the Queen-Mother daily recommended to him, and to whom he was forced to diſtribute part of his Favours; that now he did not look upon her as any longer neceſſary to ſupport his fortune, and therefore was not willing to grant the frequent demands ſhe made him; that in order to break off with her all at once, he found it convenient to viſit her no more, but expreſs a great coldneſs towards her. On the contrary, there were other Perſons that ſaid, that it was occaſion'd by the Queen-Mother her ſelf, who was not able to conſtrain her ſelf ſo far as to ſuffer the preſence of a Man

Man who minded nothing but how to advance his Family or Friends, and never ſhow'd any Civilities to her. There were others ſtill that were of Opinion, that the Duke's behaviour towards the Queen-Mother was not the reſult of his own Inclinations, but proceeded from the Suggeſtions of *Don Geronimo d' Eguya*, and indeed it might be ſo, if it were not for the two following reaſons: the firſt is becauſe there was not the leaſt appearance of any particular motive to engage him to deſire a rupture between the Queen-Mother and the Duke; the other is, that ſuppoſing he had ſuch a Deſign, yet *d' Eguya* did not at that time ſtand ſo firm in the King's good Graces, as that the Chief Miniſter ſhould think it worth his while to give him ſo great a proof of his deference: Nay 'tis certain that they had a pique againſt one another for ſome time, the ſubtle inſinuating Humour of *d' Eguya* made him always embrace the Intereſts of the moſt fortunate, and he found himſelf under certain Circumſtances, which adviſed him not to preſs too far, for fear of diſobliging the chief Miniſter. But notwithſtanding the coldneſs which paſſed between them, the King when he was at the *Eſcurial*, told *d' Eguya* one day very angrily, that if he was not more punctual for the future, to come and help him in the Diſpatches, he would do all the buſineſs with *Vibanco*, who was Secretary to the *Chamber*, and for whom the King ſhew'd Inclination enough.

The

The Duke immediately, whether out of Generoſity or Politick, excuſed *de Eguya* ſo handſomely, that he ſet him right in the King's Favour again; and this Obligation, for which *de Eguya* was indebted to him, made them be in a good Underſtanding with one another.

De Eguya finding himſelf ſo well with the Duke, confirmed him in all the diſpoſitions he already had, not only in regard to the Queen-Mother, but alſo to the Young Queen,

He repreſented to him, 'That theſe Two 'Princeſſes could do nothing for him; That 'the King would take it well, to find him te- 'ſtifie a Devotion only to his own Perſon, and 'that he would anſwer him with his Affection 'better when he ſaw it was not divided. His true Deſign in ſpeaking to him after this manner, was only to keep him to himſelf, that ſo the Chief Miniſter might repoſe an intire confidence in him.

In fine, they were both agreed, that in order to render the Duke an abſolute Maſter, it would be neceſſary for him to reſolve to refuſe the Two Queens whatever Offices or Employments they begged for their Creatures. The Duke imagined that this Counſel proceeded from a true Motive of Zeal, which he thought abounded in *De Eguya*, and believed him ſo heartily, that he would do nothing but by his Advice. The Duke was generally complained of, for ſuffering himſelf to be managed like a Child, by the only Man of *Spain*, who as

he was a Perſon of the greateſt Courtſhip, ſo he was likewiſe of the leaſt Sincerity.

To purſue his Project of diſguſting the Queen Mother, the Chief Miniſter ordered Penſions to be given to ſeveral Perſons who were directly oppoſite to her; the Duke *de Villa Hermoſa*, who had got enough in *Flanders*, and the Duke of *Alva*, were in this number. The Marqueſs *de Aſtorgas* was made Maſter of the Ordonance, although he was Comptroller of the Queen's Houſhold; and that ſingle Place, with the Wealth he had heaped up in the Kingdom of *Naples*, might very well ſuffice a Man of his Age. The Chief Miniſter afterwards aſſigned Penſions to the Women of the Dutcheſs *de Medina Celi*, out of the *Bolſillo*, which is a ſort of a Privy Purſe for the King's Houſe, and other Private Expences. He gratified ſeveral of his own Domeſticks after the ſame manner, whilſt thoſe belonging to the King lay under ſuch great Neceſſities, that they found themſelves obliged to quit his Service for meer Want and Poverty.

The Duke *de Medina Celi* gave one Proof of his Power, which ſucceeded a great deal better than one could have believed. On the 13*th* of *November*, he married one of his Relations, whoſe Name was *Don Auguſtine Henriquez de Guſman*, a Cadet of the Houſe of *Guſman*, very poor, and of little or no Merit, to *Donna Laura*, only Daughter to the Duke *de Montalte*, who was but fifteen years old, and ſo rich, that ſhe was looked upon to be the beſt Match in all *Spain*, as well upon the

the Account of her Fathers vaſt Eſtate, as thoſe of the Marqueſs *de Los Velez*, and the Count *de Oropeza*, whoſe Fortunes ſhe was to inherit, in caſe they had no Children. This Affair was the Work of the Dutcheſs *de Medina Celi*: *Don Auguſtine de Guſman* had waited upon her with ſo much Aſſiduity, that to recompence his Services, ſhe procured this Marriage for him. All the World was extreamly ſurpriſed at it; but no body could comprehend upon what Conſiderations the Duke *de Montalte* conſented to ſacrifice his Daughter to Policy. The Marqueſs *de Los Velez*, the Count *de Oropeza*, and all the reſt of their Family were hereupon mightily enraged at the Duke *de Medina Celi*; they quitted his Intereſts, which they had hitherto embraced with Zeal, and they openly declared, That they would reſent ſo diſhonourable an Alliance as long as they lived. The Count *de Oropeza* made particular Complaints againſt the Duke, becauſe he had contributed more than any one to his Elevation, and that if he had been minded to have taken Advantage of the Favourable Diſpoſitions his Majeſty had to him, it is certain, that when *Don Juan* was dead, he might have been made Chief Miniſter, notwithſtanding he was ſo young: But as he had a great Reſpect for the Duke, he imagined, that if he vigorouſly aſſiſted him upon ſo important an occaſion, he would always remember him for his Services; and that if he did not govern by himſelf, he ſhould at leaſt govern by his Friend. In this he found both

Repoſe and Security together, he flattered himſelf with diſpoſing of Favours, and being defended from the Averſion of the People. Theſe Reflections engaged him to employ all his Wit, and all his Credit with the King, to declare the Duke his Chief Miniſter. But for all this Obligation, which was tranſcendent, and for which he was highly indebted to him, he did not act fairly with relation to the Daughter of the Duke *de Montalte*; for altho the Count *de Oropeza* was her Uncle, yet he knew nothing of her Marriage. The Marchioneſs *de Los Velez*, Grand-Mother to this young Lady, was no better informed of it; they were married privately without any Ceremony, for fear leaſt any one ſhould come to diſturb the Feaſt.

The King and Queen, being willing to divert themſelves, went to *Prado*, to hunt there till St. *Andrews* Day; they came back from thence, by reaſon the Queen-Mother had a ſlight indiſpoſition upon her, and they were deſirous to viſit her every day.

About this time *Don Philip Vinzani*, an able Chymiſt, who came from *Naples* to *Madrid*, with *Don Pedro de Arragon*, received Orders from the Chief Miniſter to examine the Money, which had been cried down ſome Months before, in order to ſeparate the Silver from the Braſs. It was pretended, that the King by this means, would get Six Millions of Peices of Eight, and that he would employ them to ſend conſiderable Forces to Sea; for the Pope was willing, that the Money which

was

was to be collected by the Bulls of the *Cruſade*, ſhould be laid out to equip a Fleet, to make War againſt the *Corſairs* of *Barbary*. At the ſame time they were apprehenſive that the Veſſels ſent to the *Indies* had ſuffered Shipwrack, becauſe they had received Advice, that one of them arrived very much ſhattered at *Barbadoes*, and they could not hear any News of the reſt. Although it is the Cuſtom of *Spain* for the King to dine with the Knights of the Golden Fleece on St. *Andrew*'s day, his Majeſty diſpenſed with it, to take the diverſion of Hunting. As he came back from *Prado*, towards the Evening, the two Queens went out to meet him, and conducted him to the Admiral of *Caſtile*'s Houſe, where they had paſſed the time ever ſince Noon. This Nobleman, who was always generous and magnificent, being informed that he was to receive this Honour, ordered the Baſons of ſeveral Fountains to be encompaſſed with large ſilver Pots, filled with all manner of Victuals, Flowers and Fruits as the Seaſon produced, and the diverſity joyned to the Order had a very agreeable effect upon the Eye. In all the Summer-houſes which terminated the walks, there were little Tables ſet out with pieces of Criſtal, Agate, Cornelian, Tapiſtry of Gold and Vermilion, having all ſorts of things in Baſons after the ſame manner as the Tables had. He got all ſorts of Fruit counterfeited, particularly of Grapes which hung with their Leaves and Branches in the *Grottas*, they were compoſed chiefly of little

Carbuncles of a Pomgranet colour, Topazes, and Amethyſts, and nothing could look finer or prettier. The two Queens received a mighty ſatisfaction at this walk. As ſoon as the King was arrived, they went into the Houſe, where fifteen Ladies and as many Cavaliers immediately appeared, dreſt after the faſhion of the Country. The Ladies came at firſt in their Mantles *Tabados*, that is to ſay, all their Face was covered except one Eye. The Cavaliers for their part wore their Cloaks up to their Noſes, and their Hats over their Eyes; this was a ſort of Masquerade, and to divert their Majeſties they talked with their Fingers, and by ſigns for ſome time, with all the ſeveral turns and Jeſtures that are uſed in this kind of dumb Converſation: Afterwards the Ladies quitted their Mantles, and the Lords their Cloaks, and began to dance a Saraband after the *Mooriſh* faſhion, holding one another with Taffata Skarfs of different colours, and quitting them ſometimes to carry Flambeaus in their hands. The Women wore little Caps on their Heads, covered with Plumes that were raiſed up on the ſides very high. When the Saraband was finiſhed, the Ladies kiſſed the Queens Hand, and the Cavaliers the King's; their Majeſties were pleaſed to declare, that they were extreamly ſatisfied with this pretty Entertainment. The Duke *de Medina Celi*, and the Conſtable of *Caſtile*, knowing what Honour the King had done the Admiral, deſired him that he would condeſcend to come and divert himſelf at their Houſes, whither he went along with

with the two Queens. There were Comedies there, and Artificial Fire-works, and a noble Collation: they omitted nothing that might teſtifie their Joy upon this Occaſion, and their acknowledgment of ſo great a Favour.

On the ſecond of *December* the King demanded a ſupply of Mony of all the Councils, and a hundred thouſand pieces of Eight of the Council of *Italy*. He propoſed to ſell ſome Places to raiſe this Summ, becauſe it was impoſſible to be raiſed any other way.

The King being informed that abundance of People died of ſeveral Diſtempers at *Port St. Mary*, which were chiefly occaſioned by the great ſcarcity of Proviſions, told the Duke *de Medina Celi*, that ſome way or other muſt be found out to remedy theſe Miſeries, and that he could not endure to hear any more talk of them; that they had been of a long ſtanding, which made him inclined to believe that all this proceeded from meer negligence. The Duke replied that he would not loſe one moment to redreſs them, and that if his Life would do the People any good, he was free to ſacrifice it. He went home very melancholy, and having retired into his Cloſet with his Dutcheſs, *I have a great deſire, ſays he to her, to abandon every thing, I ſlave and kill my ſelf here with buſineſs, and after all meet with nothing but Reproaches for my Pains. When you have once brought things into a good Condition*, ſays ſhe, *you may quit them if you pleaſe; but if you leave them at preſent, all the World will conclude that it is through weakneſs.* She added ſo many reaſons

to theſe, that ſhe made him take Courage again, altho' he was mightily dejected. The Marquiſs *de Priego*, his Son-in-law being come to *Madrid* to ſee him, as he entred the Room hit himſelf a little blow on the Temples againſt the Edge of a Cabinet, he was immediately ſeized with a bleeding at the Noſe, and died of it within a ſhort time after.

Our Ambaſſador prevailed with the King to give his conſent to appoint a Judge *Conſervator*, whoſe only buſineſs ſhould be to look after all Affairs relating to the *French* Nation.

The buſineſs was decided at laſt in *Madrid*, in favour of Conſtable *Colonna*, upon the difference he had with the *Roman* Knights, Subjects to the King of *Spain*, about the Priority they pretended to diſpute with him in the *Cavalcade*, which is every year performed to preſent the Pope with a white Mare, and a common Scedule for the Kingdom of *Naples*, which the King of *Spain* holds in fief of the Holy See. His Catholick Majeſty's Council had delay'd to regulate this Affair ever ſince the year 1668. When the Roman Barons perceived that it was not determined in favour of them, they ſearched new occaſions to get the ſentence revoked; and to ſucceed in their deſigns, they united themſelves with the Heads of the Papal Families, to write all of them together to *Madrid* about the Matter: When the King was told of it, he only anſwered, *What is judged is judged.* The Marquis *de Liche*, Ambaſſador from *Spain*, at *Rome* fell ſick; he ſent immediately for the Pope's Phyſician to come

to

to him, and when his Friends demanded of him why he choſe him before his own, *I am ſo weary of my Life, ſays he, that I purpoſely ſend for one, who will ſooneſt kill me, if it were only to pleaſe his Maſter. The Pope being informed of this anſwer, ſent one of the Gentlemen of his Chamber to viſit him, and ordered him to tell the Marquis, that he deſired his Health as much as he did his abſence, and by that he might judge whether he wiſhed his recovery or no.*

About the beginning of *December* there was a great Earthquake in the Province of *Salerne*, as alſo at *Naples*, and the Places about it, nevertheleſs it did no damage. It was commonly ſaid at *Madrid*, that the Queen-Mother had engaged the King to nominate Cardinal *Nitard* to be Vice-Roy of *Naples*, and that ſhe hoped in a ſhort time to ſee her two Favorites with her. The Cardinal was the firſt, and the Marquiſs *de Valenzuela* the ſecond. The Marquiſs *de los Velez*, who had no deſire to quit his place, ſent the King (in order to fix himſelf in his good Graces) a ſtately Coach of admirable Sculpture, and Embroidered all over moſt delicately. But although the King had ſo many fine Coaches by him, I never ſaw him in any of them; he juſt caſt his Eyes upon them, and then they were ſhut up in a Coach-houſe, where time and the duſt abſolutely ſpoiled them; the King rather loves to ride in great Coaches of green Linnen waxed over, made after the ſame faſhion with ours, and which a ſimple Citizen of *Paris* would not vouchſafe to go in. The Marquiſs *de los Velez* ſent

ſent him likewiſe ſome *Neapolitan* Horſes, but ſo finely ſhaped, that nothing certainly ever came near them.

Few days paſſed wherein the King and Queen did not go a hunting, or elſe to ſee a Play; they went to *Buen Retiro* to behold ſome *Dutchmen* skate upon the Ice after the faſhion of their Country. Some Ladies ſent to acquaint the Queen that if her Majeſty would permit them to appear masked, becauſe they had no mind to be known, they would ſhow her better ſport than ſhe had hitherto ſeen. They were told that they might come if they pleaſed, and immediately they went upon the Ice in ſhort Petticoats, fine Shooes and Stockings, and Pattins after the *Dutch* manner; they danced a Saraband with Caſtanets to admiration, moving as nimbly as the dance would allow them; but the Ice not being equally thick in all Places, broke under one of them, and let her fall into the water, where ſhe had certainly been drowned, if People had not come to her help immediately. Having loſt her Mask by this Mischance, they ſaw ſhe was a very deformed old Woman, who was near threeſcore years old. When the Queen was told of it, ſhe ſmiled and anſwered, *That at that Age it was lawful for any one to go masked.*

The two Queens on St. *Nicholas's* day made a Preſent of precious Stones to the Dutcheſs *d' Albuquerque*, becauſe it was her Birth-day. She offered them in way of return, ſome Curioſities of great Value, and particularly a Prayer-book to the young Queen which was incom-

incomparably well painted, with golden Claſps, and adorned with Diamonds. It being now towards the end of the Year, I went (according to the Cuſtom) to wiſh her Majeſty a happy *New Year*, ſhe was dreſt in a ſlight Stuff of white Wool, and had a prodigious quantity of large Pearls about her; ſhe ſat near a great Veſſel full of Olive ſtones, and turning over the Leaves of the Prayer-book which the Dutcheſs *d' Albuquerque* had given her, did me the honour to ſhew it me. *See*, ſays ſhe, *here are* Henry *the Fourth, and* Mary de Medicis *on their Knees, ſtretching out their Arms in their Oratory; it is certain that this Book was made for one of them. I was deſirous to know by what accident it came into* Spain, *and told her that perhaps Queen* Elizabeth *brought it thither.* Upon this ſhe called for the Dutcheſs *d' Albuquerque*, and asked her how ſhe came by it. The Dutcheſs told her ſhe could not tell, but only that ſhe had received it of her Mother. The Queen ſaid to me afterwards, *Are you not ſurprized to find me dreſt in white Wollen; 'Tis a ſmall ſort of Devotion which the King and I perform, but no body ſhall know the reaſon of it. Ah Madam, reply'd the Dutcheſs* de Paſtrane, *we all of us take the liberty to divine. How ſays the Queen, without miſtaking? No, I am not poſitive ſaid the Dutcheſs. And for you, ſaid ſhe to me, have you gueſs'd at the true cauſe? Yes Madam, very eaſily, reply'd I, and all* Spain *joyns its Vows with yours. Don't you know, ſays the Queen ſmiling, that this is none of the beſt Places in the World to play the Sorcereſs in, and that we have a horrible Inquiſition here? The King entred*

the

the Room at that moment, ſo the Queen riſing up, told him with a chearful Air, that ſhe had two Sorcereſſes to ſhew him; and that the Dutcheſs de Paſtrane *and I had divined the Myſtery of her white Habit.* The King, although in all appearance he ſeemed to be in a good Humour, looked ſo angrily upon us, and particularly upon my ſelf, whom he knew to be a *French*-Woman, that I made a profound Reverence, and went immediately out of the Queen's Apartment.

An Order was here publiſhed to raiſe the price of Money, which was reduced to a fourth part of its value.

Although the Duke *de Medina Celi* was indiſpoſed, yet he did not neglect to inform himſelf diligently of every thing that happened, and he was not a little troubled to hear that the Plague began to rage again at *Port St. Mary.* The Scarcity and Poverty of this Country was ſo extreamly great, that ſeveral Perſons died daily for Want. And the Duke *de Medina-Cidonia* was obliged to ſend Corn from *Andaluzia* thither. The Miſery was not leſs at *Naples.* The Pope's Nuncio, by his Holineſs's Order, Summoned the Superiours of all the Regular Houſes hither, to oblige them to give the City ſome Relief in Corn.

They granted two in a hundred of their Revenue, and it was hoped that what with this Money, and what with the Charities they drew from private Perſons, they would remedy theſe preſſing Neceſſities: But after ſome time,

time, Cardinal *Caracchioli*, Arch-biſhop of *Naples*, acquainted the Marqueſs *de los Velez* by his Vicar General, that the Pope would not ſuffer the Tax of two in the hundred to be raiſed any longer upon the Eccleſiaſtical Revenues. Thus the Vice-Roy found himſelf diſappointed in his deſigns of raiſing two hundred thouſand Crowns, which were to be laid out in Corn, and likewiſe a more conſiderable Sum that was to be ſent to *Madrid*. To augment the Diſorder, which was already great enough, the price of Gold Money diminiſhed daily in the Dutchy of *Bari*, which totally hindred all Commerce in the greateſt part of the Kingdom. On the 16*th*. of *December* they made a Proceſſion at *Naples*, which is duly performed every Year, to thank God for preſerving this City from the Flames of the Mountain *Veſuvius*. The Body and Blood of St. *Januarius*, one of the Protectors of *Naples*, was carried about in this Proceſſion.

The King was troubled with an Ague for a few days towards the beginning of *January* 1681. It is impoſſible for any one to ſhew the aſſiduity that the young Queen made appear during the little time his Indiſpoſition laſted. Two Comedies were acted at Court to divert His Majeſty after his Recovery. On one of theſe days, the King having prohibited all Perſons, without exception, to ſit upon the Theatre; the Duke *d'Oſſone* placed himſelf there upon a heap of Cuſhions, and would not depart. The King took no notice of it during the Play, but as ſoon as it was over, he

he ſent an Order to him, to come no more to Council or to Court. He was not in the leaſt pitied, ſince he had voluntarily drawn this Misfortune upon himſelf, and becauſe it was neceſſary to mortifie him a little. But what principally occaſioned the King's Severity, is, that he had obſerved in his Journey to the *Eſcurial*, that the Duke, who was Maſter of the Horſe to the Queen, did not follow the Court thither. A little after his return, he ſent him word, that he expected him to wait more diligently for the future; the Duke took no notice of this Advice, and as he was one of the haughtieſt Men in the World, affected a certain negligence in the diſcharge of his Office, which obliged the King to acquaint him by a Note from the Secretary of State, that if he did not behave himſelf better for the time to come, he would diſpoſe of his Place to ſome body elſe. He might eaſily have judged from this, that the King had his Eye fixed upon him, and at leaſt ought to have taken care of himſelf for ſome time, but his Natural haughtineſs would not ſuffer him to comply with this conſtraint.

The Duke *de Medina Celi* did not paſs all his moments with content; he was envied for the high Poſt he enjoyed, and *d' Eguya* was mortally hated: both of them had powerful Enemies, and amongſt theſe were reckoned the Duke *de Veraguas*, the Duke *de Paſtrane* and his two Brothers, the Admiral of *Caſtile*, the Prince *de Stillano*, the Count *de Monterey*, the

the Count *d'Oropeza*, and the Marqueſs *de Manſera*. They frequently met together, and made ſevere Reflections upon the unequal Conduct of the Duke *de Medina-Celi*; they obſerved that he was too irreſolute when there was an occaſion for conſtancy; too lazy, when he ought to be diligent; and too poſitive, when he was juſtly and reaſonably oppoſed. They examined the preſent ſtate of the Kingdom, the Miſery of the People, and the little appearances there were that he would redreſs them. They propoſed Expedients to Remedy all theſe Grievances, and likewiſe to prevent thoſe that might happen; but as it was not the publick Good alone that made them thus inquiſitive, but their private Intereſt animated them, they took all of them different Meaſures to attain the particular Ends they propoſed to themſelves. It is true indeed, they all concurred in the deſtruction of the Chief Miniſter, but when he was removed out of the way, every one was deſirous to make the beſt Advantages of it for himſelf; and thus this narrow Spirit of Self-Intereſt which was ſo predominant in their Cabals, hindred them from uniting with that ſincerity, that makes great Affairs ſucceed happily.

Amongſt theſe Noblemen the Admiral was moſt forward to deſire an Alteration: He had not forgot the ſweetneſs he had taſted in that ſhort interval, when the Marqueſs *de Valenzuela* was the Queen-Mother's Favourite: the remembrance of that Golden time made him deſirous of another like it; for though he was a Per-

a Perſon of a great Eſtate, yet his Expences were ſo extraordinary, that if he had been a great deal richer, he would have been always in Debt. He deſired therefore to contribute what in him lay to the ſetting up of another Miniſter, in order to find his Accounts in it; not that he deſigned to heap up any Money, but to throw it out of the Windows, and ſquander it away, if he could but get enough to ſerve ſo. He carefully look'd about him to find out a fit and capable Perſon to be advanced to this Honour; and at laſt, the Count *d' Oropeza* ſeemed to be the moſt proper to accompliſh his Deſigns: for he did not doubt but that thoſe particular marks of Eſteem His Majeſty always ſhewed him, would have their effect, in caſe he were ſupported by a powerful Party.

On the other hand, the Count *de Monterey*, who wanted neither Youth, Wit, nor Ambition, whoſe whole deportment was agreeable and Court-like, who had been concerned in the management of ſeveral Affairs, who was laborious and vigilant, took only reſolute and ſecret Perſons into his Party. He had the juſteſt occaſions in the World to be diſpleaſed with the Duke *de Medina Celi*, and *Don Geronimo d' Eguya* his Mortal Enemy had done him a great deal of wrong before the King. He had painted the Action and Character of this Count in ſuch black colours, that the Young Queen deſigning to do him ſome good Offices, and ſpeaking very advantageouſly of him to His Majeſty, he told her, *That* Monterey

terey *might reckon himſelf happy enough, that he wore his Head upon his ſhoulders ſtill.* The Count was ſenſibly diſguſted to ſee the Duke *de Villa Hermoſa,* who had been Governour of *Flanders* after him, and who had even ſerved under his Orders, made Counſellor of State at his arrival at *Madrid,* and himſelf conſequently excluded after ſo diſobliging a manner. Beſides this, he ſaw that the Marqueſs *de Liche* his Brother was detained at *Rome* againſt his will, although he daily petitioned to be called home. This gave the Count a new occaſion to complain, and made him ſenſible of the ill diſpoſitions they had at Court to his Brother and himſelf. The Marchioneſs *de Liche,* who was Beautiful and Young, threw her ſelf frequently at the King's feet, to demand of him the return of her Husband, who was continually indiſpoſed at *Rome,* whether it were becauſe the Air did not agree with him, or that his uneaſineſs to be kept there by force, contributed to deſtroy his Health. What makes the caſe harder, is, that ſhe did not requeſt to have him come back to *Madrid,* but only that he might have permiſſion to live in any of His Majeſty's Dominions. The greater part of the Councellors of State were agreed in favour of the Marchioneſs, and her Prayers had certainly met with ſucceſs, if the Enemies of the Marqueſs *de Liche* had not taken all Opportunities to confirm the King in the Opinion he had already of him, that he was a Man of the moſt incurable ill Temper in the World, and that it was not poſſible for him

to permit him to come home, without hazarding the Peace of all the Court. We may therefore eaſily apprehend, that the Count *de Monterey* had reaſon enough to be angry with the Duke *de Medina-Celi* and *d' Eguya*; and his Reſentments as well as his Ambition made him paſſionately wiſh to ſee another in the Place, that he might effectually Revenge himſelf upon the Duke, whom he hated, and might have Acceſs enough to the New Favourite, to be able through his means to be introduced into the Council of State, and puſh on his own Fortune. He imagined himſelf capable of doing it by his Merits and good Management; but although he might with Juſtice aſpire to the moſt high and difficult Poſts, he was obliged to conceal his deſires and intentions, becauſe he found People's Eyes were ſtill upon him, and that ſeveral who made a Solemn Profeſſion to be his Friends, ſerved only as ſo many Spies to watch him. This conſideration prevailed with him to put that reſtraint upon himſelf, as to live in a ſort of Retirement, and that with ſo much circumſpection, as to diſcover his Deſigns almoſt to no body. Nay, he affected to Viſit the Duke *de Medina Celi*, and having found him one day more eaſie of Acceſs than was uſual with him, he freely declared to him, that it was not without the greateſt impatience that he beheld the preference the Duke *de Villa Hermoſa* met with, to be made Privy-Counſellor, and himſelf excluded. The Duke anſwered him, that he might expect his turn

one

one day, and upon this ſhewed him ſome Civility, which perſwaded the Count to believe, that he had now perhaps a greater kindneſs for him than formerly. This Reaſon engaged him to make his Court regularly to him, and to devote himſelf to him, at leaſt in appearance.

The Duke *de Veraguas*, ſenſible of the Affront he had received in loſing the Vice-Roy-ſhip of *Valentia*, had no other motive to induce him to think of the removal of the Chief Miniſter, but only an expectation that he who ſucceeded him in that Place, would do him more Juſtice, than the Duke *de Medina Celi* had done: For although the Duke *de Veraguas* was deſcended of an Illuſtrious Family, as being of the Houſe of *Portugal*, and that beſides his Youth, he had a great deal of Merit and Capacity, yet whatever importunities he made at Court to be reſtored to his Vice-Roy-ſhip again, he was not able to obtain it. He had received Abſolution privately from the Apoſtolick *Nuncio* for having ordered the Monk to be executed, who had quitted his Habit, and was made Captain of the *Banditti*. It was believed, that having now appeaſed the Pope, this would facilitate his re-eſtabliſhment; he daily preſented his Petitions to the Council, he demanded of them, that if he were a Criminal, they would treat him as ſuch, that his Tryal might come on, and that his Head might anſwer for the faults he had committed; but that if after a ſtrict Examination of his Conduct, they found he had ſerved His Ma-

jeſty well, they would not deny him the Juſtice that is allowed to the meaneſt Souldier. His Trouble and his Requeſts were always equally unſucceſsful, he found them perverſe and prejudiced againſt him; and ſo by this ill uſage they obliged him to joyn with the Male-contents.

As for the Duke *de Paſtrane*, he had not in the leaſt been ill uſed at Court, however he thought it ſufficient ill Treatment to be left without an Employ. His Wife, who was Siſter to the Marqueſs *de Liche* and the Count *de Monterey*, being provoked at what Indignities thoſe of her Family had ſuffered, perſwaded him to uſe all his Efforts to get a new Miniſtery eſtabliſhed. The Duke *de Paſtrane* voluntarily eſpouſed this Party, and his two Brothers, whom he had made acquainted with the Deſign, were reſolved not to ſeparate their Intereſts from his; one of them was named *Don Gaſpar*, the other *Don Joſeph de Silva*; the laſt of theſe had a very great ſhare in the King's Affections, and his Place of Chief Gentleman-Uſher procured him a great Eſteem and Approbation. He had married the Daughter of the Marqueſs *de Manſera*: But theſe three Noblemen were guilty of a great Soleciſm in this Affair; for they communicated the matter to *Don Sebaſtian Bibanco*, Secretary of the Chamber, out of a preſumption that he was of the ſame Opinion with themſelves, but herein they were miſtaken; for he was infinitely more devoted to the Chief Miniſter than to them, and conſequently no ſooner knew

knew any thing of Importance, but he immediately diſcovered it to him.

The Marqueſs *de Manſera*, Grand Maſter of the Queen-Mother's Houſhold, and her Creature, deſired for her ſake as well as his own, to ſee the Government molded into another form. He was a Man well advanced in years, whoſe Merit and Experience might with Juſtice prompt him to believe that he was fit to poſſeſs whatever Place they would aſſign him in the Miniſtry. He deſired a *Junčto* to be erected, that he might be choſen a Member of it: But knowing that his Zeal for the Queen-Mother rendred him ſtrongly ſuſpected, and that he ran an extraordinary hazard if he appeared for himſelf, he judged it expedient to employ the Marqueſs *de Grana*, who was his Brother-in-law and Confident. So he diſcourſed him about the matter, and poſſeſſed him with a deſire to take all neceſſary meaſures to effect it. The other having nothing to fear by reaſon of his Quality of being Ambaſſador, laboured very diligently in the Affair, while the Marqueſs *de Manſera* expreſſed but a ſmall concern for whatever happened at Court, unleſs it were for the Marqueſs *de Grana*'s Endeavours to contribute to his Advancement. He ſeemed to be of Opinion, that for the Intereſts of the Emperour his Maſter, he was obliged to procure the Proſperity of *Spain*, which languiſhed under an extream Miſery that extended it ſelf farther than the Limits of that Kingdom: That it was impoſſible for the King to Second the Emperour in any of his

Deſigns, as long as the Members of that great body were declining, and continued under the ill effects of a Conſumption, that made them utterly incapable of Action; that it was to no purpoſe to make any Propoſals to the Miniſters, becauſe whatever they promiſed him was never executed. All theſe Motives joyned together, excited him to make all poſſible advances to convince the Duke of the Neceſſity he lay under to erect a Juncto.

Beſides this he conſidered that the Marqueſs *de Manſera* wou'd not fail of making one of that number; that he would manage himſelf in the Council according to the Directions he gave him, and that this would be the eaſieſt way for him to ſucceed in all his Enterprizes. He imagin'd that the beſt Policy he could uſe to accompliſh theſe Deſigns, would be to uſe none at all, and ſo he addreſſed himſelf immediately to the Duke *de Medina Celi*. He began with commending his Zeal, his Induſtry and Pains, and afterwards paſſing into a more ſtrict Examination of every thing, he was deſirous to make him comprehend, *That the Affairs of this Monarchy were reduced to their laſt Period, unleſs he took ſure and ready Methods to remedy them; that he made a ſlave of himſelf in vain, ſince it was not poſſible for one ſingle Man to ſuſtain (like another* Atlas*) the weight of ſo many Kingdoms; that* Don Louis de Haro *at a conjuncture of leſs difficulty, had compoſed a Juncto for his own eaſe, and herein followed the Example of ſeveral great Miniſters who preceded him; that a Juncto would ſerve to determine Matters under the Autho-*

rity

rity of the Chief Miniſter, to whom they would carry every thing almoſt digeſted in his hand, and that by this means buſineſs would go on cheerfully and ſpeedily; that at the preſent time, whatever good Reſolutions were taken, yet they continued without effect by reaſon of the general Perplexity, which rendred thoſe things difficult that appeared to be very eaſie; that he ought to conſider, that the moſt accompliſhed Genius in the World, without great Preſumption, could never promiſe himſelf to move ſo ponderous a Machine all alone, and that he therefore counſelled him to take ſome ſeconds, of Experience and Ability ſufficient, to make him repoſe one part of his Affairs upon them.

The Chief Miniſter reliſhed theſe Reaſons of the Marquiſs *de Grana*, promiſing to weigh the matter with Deliberation, and afterwards if he ſaw good, to determine himſelf by the Advice he had given him. This gave the Ambaſſador good hopes, that his viſit would meet with happy ſucceſs; and as he was a Perſon of a great deal of Wit, who knew how to ſet off any thing to the beſt advantage, and ſhow it by the beſt Lights, ſo he did not queſtion but the Duke *de Medina Celi* would lay hold of the Expedients he had diſcovered to him; but the Chief Miniſter had the weakneſs to diſcourſe *d'Eguya* about them; who did not loſe one moment to diſſwade him from this Reſolution. *He repreſented to him, that if he compoſed a Junčto he went to give himſelf ſo many Tutors; that then he could decide nothing but in concert with them; that he would find himſelf joyned with Noblemen who were led by*

their own Paſſions, blinded with their own Intereſts, ſtill purſuing their own ends, and turning every matter to their own private advantage; that notwithſtanding all this, he only muſt reſolve to bear the brunt of all, and that every body having their Eyes fixed upon him would purſue all his Motions ſtep by ſtep; that if any difficult juncture, any misfortune, or unexpected accident ſhould happen, he alone muſt incur the Reproach of it; that the Juncto would never be called in queſtion for ill Events, but that they would all lye at the Chief Miniſter's door; that it was very juſt and natural to think, that if he alone was reſponſible for all Miſcarriages, that then he alone deſerved to enjoy the Grandeur and Advantages that are annexed to this Place. He turned the Duke's Inclinations ſo happily by theſe Reaſons, that he reſolved to follow them, notwithſtanding the advice that was given him to the contrary; ſo that when the Marqueſs came to him with Expectations to find him continue ſtill in the ſame Sentiments, and ready to put them in Execution, he perceived that he was ſtedfaſt and inflexible in the other Opinion, and that all the Avenues to him were ſhut up and hindred.

In the mean time the Lords who had aſſociated together to make a League againſt the Duke, continued to aſſemble in private, and to debate of the Expedients that were to be taken to convince the King of the neceſſity there was to choſe another Miniſter, or at leaſt to erect a Juncto; but the greateſt part of their time was generally ſpent in making long

long Political Diſcourſes, and theſe ſame Politicks hindered them ſo, that none of them offered to put himſelf at the head of the Party. When the Queſtion was about ſetting up a Chief, every one ſtood looking upon his Neighbour; they wanted that Amity and Confidence in one another which is neceſſary to cement theſe Deſigns, and he that merited the greateſt eſteem, was ſure to find the leaſt Friendſhip from the reſt. Envy reigned amongſt them, Sincerity was not obſerved; and when their Society was examined, there was nothing but vanity and weakneſs to be found at the bottom.

Amongſt thoſe who were moſt ſenſible of the ill management that was to be found in this Cabal, the Admiral of *Caſtile* was one of the firſt. He eaſily diſcovered all the defects of the Party, and found it was non-ſenſe to be longer engaged in it, ſince the Bow was not drawn high enough to ſend the Arrow to the Butt. He was aſſured that the deſign would be diſcovered, and that then he ſhould find himſelf very finely ruined; that ſuppoſing it ſucceeded, and a Junćto was ſet up, the Marqueſs *de Liche* would in all probability be made a Member of it, and for his part rather than that ſhould happen, he would chuſe to go to Hell, becauſe he bore ſuch an implacable hatred to him. This only Idea, that now he contributed to procure an Advantage for the Marqueſs, turned his Inclinations abſolutely from the Society into which he was entred; in fine, after abundance of Reflexions he totally

ly abandoned it, and ſeveral People were ſtrongly perſwaded that he was not content to quit it, but that he went to the King, and acquainted him with the leaſt Particulars of what had paſſed there; nay, that he gave the ſame Advice to the Duke *de Medina Celi.*

The firſt Victim the Duke ſacrificed to his Reſentments, was the Count *de Monterey* whether it were becauſe his Indignation was the more violent againſt him by reaſon of the Friendſhip he always pretended to him, and now had violated; or becauſe he feared him more than any of the reſt: So that notwithſtanding the great ſecurity he imagined himſelf to be in for his circumſpect Conduct, the Preſident of *Caſtile* ſent him word, that he had ſomething to ſay to him, and therefore muſt ſee him that Evening at Court, (for it muſt be obſerved by the way, that the Preſidents of *Caſtile* never go to make any Viſits.) The Count was very glad to have this Opportunity to diſcourſe him, having ſome Affairs to ſpeak with him about, wherein he was concerned. But his Joy laſted but a ſhort time, for the Preſident gave him an Order contained in a Billet from the King, and ſigned by *Don Geronimo d' Eguya*, wherein it was ſpecified that he muſt inſtantly retire to one of his Country Houſes. He continued ſurprized for ſome time, and told the Preſident that he was ready to obey it; but that being a Grandee of *Spain*, he demanded an Order ſigned by the King's own hand, ſince it was the Cuſtom; and that while he tarried for it, he would go

to

to put his Affairs in Order. In ſhort, he returned to his own Houſe extreamly concerned, and got his Equipage made ready, not at all doubting but that the Order would be ſent ſuddenly to him. He received it next day, which was the 15*th* of *January*, accompanied with a Permiſſion to tarry three days longer in *Madrid*. He paſſed them there amongſt ſome of his Friends, and afterwards parted for *Salamanca*. Few People pittied his caſe, becauſe he was generally envied; and when Fortune leaves a man, few of his Friends have Generoſity enough to declare themſelves in favour of him, or to eſpouſe his Cauſe. He was the firſt Perſon whom the Duke *de Medina Celi* treated ill, and 'tis believed he had not made him ſerve as an Example for the reſt, if *d'Eguya* by his violent Courſes had not ſowred that peaceable and ſweet Diſpoſition that was ſo natural to the Chief Miniſter; for he adviſed him to puniſh the Count immediately, to be a warning to others; and he was baniſhed rather becauſe he was not agreeable to *d'Eguya*, and had too much Merit, than becauſe he was an Enemy to the Duke. The Queen-Mother ſecretly rejoyced at it, but could not ſo well conceal her ſatisfaction, but that it was evidently perceived. The Count had quitted her Party in *Don Juan*'s time, and 'tis very well known that he had ſeveral preſſing Obligations upon him to have uſed her after another manner; for if he had been willing to have made the beſt advantage of his Fortune, ſhe had preferred him to *Valenzuela*, and intruſted

truſted him with the management of her Affairs. He had at leaſt as many good Qualities as the other could pretend to, and was of an illuſtrious Extraction, but being a young man he neglected the advances the Queen-Mother made towards him. A certain Perſon who knew the whole Proceedings very well, told me that Father *Nitard* was ſcarce gone out of *Spain* when ſhe began to caſt her Eyes upon him intending to honour him with her Confidence. On the Feſtival of St. *Iſidore*, who is the Patron of *Madrid*, and on which day a Bull-feaſt was celebrated at the Expence of the City, the Queen-Mother asked the Count whether he deſigned to combat the Bulls, he told her no, unleſs her Majeſty would be pleaſed to order him. *No*, ſays ſhe, *I will by no means command you to do it, but is there ne'er a Lady here in Court, who has laid any ſuch Commands upon you? If any of them had*, reply'd he, *your Majeſty may well imagine that I would not fail to give her this mark of my Obedience.* The Queen cryed out Jeſus, Jeſus, Count! Will you expoſe your Life thus? A few days after this ſhe let a Paper drop out of her hands as he was giving her an Account of ſome Affairs ſhe had intruſted him with, he took it up, and kneeling upon one Knee, preſented it to her. *Perhaps*, ſays the Queen, *you believe it is a Paper of Importance, come I'll leave you to judge of that your ſelf, open it.* The Count found the following words there.

Eſtoy

Eſtoy toda la noche deſpierta ſola, triſte, y deſeando: mis penas ſon Martirios, mis Martirios ſon guſtos. That is to ſay, *I paſs all the Night without ſleeping, alone, penſive, and forming deſires to my ſelf: my Pain is a Martyrdom, but my Martyrdom is a Pleaſure.* The Count read theſe words with ſo careleſs an Air, that the Queen who obſerved it, ſnatched the Paper out of his hand, and ſaid to him, go you inſenſible, and ſay your *Domine non ſum dignus.* The Count was ſenſible of his fault, and indeavoured to repair it, but it ſucceeded a great deal worſe with him. The Queen-Mother did not doubt but that he had ſome other Engagement which he preferr'd to his Fortune; ſhe informed her ſelf of his Conduct, and at laſt knew that he was deſperately in love with the Dutcheſs *de Monteleon.* This was a young Widow, beautiful and agreeable, but the Queen prohibited her to come to Court. The Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova* her Mother, was extreamly diſguſted at it, and this was the occaſion why ſhe diſengaged her ſelf from the Intereſts of the Queen-Mother, and joyned with *Don Juan*'s Faction. In the mean time the Queen continued ſtill enraged at the Procedure of the Count *de Monterey*; ſo that paſſing from the extremity of Love to that of hatred, ſhe gave him, during the remainder of her Regency, all the Mortifications ſhe could think of.

Moſt People were diſpleaſed with the Admiral of *Caſtile*, and call him nothing but falſe Brother, and falſe Friend. Nevertheleſs he would

would have it received for a certain truth, that he never had any intention to make the leaſt Diſcoveries, but that the King having ſent for him, told him, that upon condition he would deal fairly and honeſtly by him, he would forgive him; whereas on the contrary, if he went about to Excuſe himſelf, he was certainly undone; that he knew every thing that had paſſed, even to the leaſt Circumſtance, that the Declaration he demanded of him was rather to know his Heart, than to draw any new lights from him; that when he would have denied every thing, the King preſt him more earneſtly than before; ſo that upon that ſcore he reſolved to diſcover what related perſonally to himſelf, but that he had avoided as much as was poſſible to ſpeak of his Friends. To ſay the truth, whether he really excuſed the Prince *de Stillano*, or the Court looked upon him to have made but an inconſiderable Figure amongſt the Party, the Chief Miniſter did not make him feel the Effects of his Indignation. It is indeed as certain, that his Puniſhment preceded his Fault, and that having already loſt his Place of being Preſident of the Council of *Flanders*, which was beſtowed upon the Count *de Monterey*, he had ſome Juſtice on his ſide to expect that they would ſuffer him to live in quiet.

The Baniſhment of the Count *de Monterey* ſo terribly affrighted the Duke *de Paſtrane* his Brother-in-law, that he thought of nothing elſe but how to get handſomly out of the Intrigue: He follow'd the Admiral's ſteps, that

is

is to ſay, he readily diſcovered whatever he knew of this Affair, that he might better perſwade the King of his Sincerity and Repentance. Secretary *Vibaneo*, to whom he opened himſelf, had already diſcoyered the whole Contrivance; but in fine, he came ſoon enough to be favourably received; his two Brothers, who were concerned in the ſame Cabal, imitated his Example in reconciling themſelves to the Duke *de Medina Celi*, and they ſeemed in all appearance to embrace his Intereſts with greater Zeal than any of his beſt and oldeſt Friends. Nevertheleſs the Duke *de Paſtrane* and his two Brothers could not forbear to be a little troubled, for being looked upon by the World as timerous Perſons, who had only made theſe Diſcoveries out of Weakneſs and Irreſolution: This Reaſon obliged them to uſe all imaginable means to make it be believed that they had told the King nothing; but that having had the misfortune to communicate their Deſigns to *Vibanco*, he had ſacrificed his Friendſhip to make his Court at their Expence; that the King had him ready to produce as a Witneſs againſt them, that he had ſeverely threatned them, and affixed their Pardon only to their ſincerity; that they could not poſſibly avoid the doing of this at a Juncture when they ſhould otherwiſe have deſtroyed themſelves without ſaving any body elſe; and that if it had not been for theſe unhappy Circumſtances, they had never been capable of doing this Injury to their Friends. People hearkned to them, but gave no Credit

to

to their words; nay, ſeveral of their Friends reproached them very frankly for ſhewing ſo little courage and conſtancy upon this Occaſion.

Perhaps the Duke *de Veraguas* had eſcaped as well as the Prince *de Stillano*, and the loſs of his Vice-Roy-ſhip had prevented the Puniſhment they pretended he deſerved, for joyning himſelf to a Party againſt the Chief Miniſter: But he was impatient to be reſtored to his former Dignity, and continually demanded Juſtice at their hands; he filled all his Petitions with Complaints, and loudly vented them againſt the Duke *de Medina Celi*; beſides this, he earneſtly importuned the King to aſſign him ſome Judges, before whom he might Juſtifie his Conduct in condemning the relapſed Monk, who had betaken himſelf to the *Banditti*. So at laſt he was ſent to the Council of *Arragon*, where he demanded to be re-eſtabliſhed, as a piece of Juſtice that could not be denied him, and purſued this Affair with all poſſible vigour and heat: But on the third of *February* he received an Order to withdraw preſently to his Eſtate in *Andaluzia*. He begged leave to go to any other place, becauſe the Plague raged violently in that Province; but it was refuſed him, and he had only eight hours to prepare for his departure. One may ſay, it was only the ill Fortune of the Duke *de Veraguas* that procured him all the ill uſage he met upon the account of his Vice-Roy-ſhip: for it is a certain truth, that if there were a Law to treat all People after the ſame manner

who

who fail in their Duty, abundance of Perſons had been ſeverely puniſhed, who were now gratified and encouraged for their pains: But His Majeſty was ſo exceedingly prejudiced againſt him, that one Evening when the Queen was demanding of him, whether it were true, that the Duke *de Veraguas* was baniſhed: He anſwered, *Yes, and that all thoſe ſhould be treated in the ſame kind, who talked impertinently.* This was ſufficient to make the Queen know how his inclinations ſtood, and as ſhe was very prudent, ſhe took care to change the Diſcourſe immediately.

It was now ſenſibly perceived at Court, that the Duke *de Medina Celi*, and *Don Geronimo d' Eguya* oppoſed the Queen-Mother in every thing, but the true occaſion was not poſitively known. One day when the Marchioneſs *de Mortare* came to Viſit us, we ſpoke to her concerning it; and as ſhe was particularly informed of the whole matter, and repoſed a greater confidence in us than in the *Spaniards*, becauſe we had no Intereſts to take in this Affair; ſhe acquainted us, That ſome time before the King went to the *Eſcurial*, *d' Eguya* going to find out the Queen-Mother, to ſhew her a certain Letter which the Marqueſs *de Liche*, Ambaſſador at *Rome*, had ſent to the King: when he was come into her Cloſet, looked for it in his Letter-bag to no purpoſe. He then remembred himſelf, that he had lock'd it up in his *Scritore*, where he had ſeveral other Papers, which he had no mind any body ſhould ſee; and ſent a little Page for

it, who could not read. The poor Boy took the firſt Letter he found there, and wrapped it up in a ſheet of white Paper, as he had every day ſeen his Maſter do the ſame, when he carried his Expeditions to the King.

Don Geronimo d' Eguya tarried all this while with the Queen-Mother, and as ſoon as the Boy brought him the Letter, without taking it out of the Paper, delivered it to her. It was now towards Evening, and the Queen went to the Window to read it more conveniently: She was immediately ſurprized to find it was not the Marqueſs *de Liche*'s Hand, but that of *Donna Lucinda Bucados* (who was of the Houſe *de Barcelona*) one of her Maids of Honour, who was a very Beautiful Lady, and extreamly lov'd by *d' Eguya*. The Letter was writ with a great deal of freedom, and ſignified to him, that he had no reaſon to apprehend that the Queen her Miſtreſs would cenſure their Amours. She gave him ſeveral Reaſons for it, that highly reflected on the Queen's Reputation. After ſhe had read it over, ſhe impoſed that conſtraint upon her ſelf, as to conceal her Indignation for that time, and only told *d' Eguya*, that ſhe muſt Diſcourſe the King about what the Ambaſſador had written to him. As ſoon as he was gone, ſhe ſent for *Donna Lucinda*, and after ſhe had reproached her for her Ingratitude and Impudence, ſhe cauſed her to be privately locked up in a little Chamber well grated and barred up, and kept the Key of it her ſelf. Here the unfortunate *Lucinda* was forced to lye upon a ſorry

Matt,

Matt, having nothing but Bread and Water to ſuſtain her, and the Queen-Mother frequently ordered her to undergo the Penance of a Diſcipline. They told thoſe that enquired after her, that ſhe was ſick of the Small Pox, that the Queen had ordered her to be removed out of the Palace, and that ſhe was dangerouſly ill.

Don Geronimo d' Eguya believed the News, and was almoſt deſperate for two days; but having opened his *Scritore* to take out ſomething or other, he was exceedingly ſurpriſed to find the Marqueſs *de Liche*'s Letter there, which he thought he had left in the hands of the Queen-Mother: He ſearched immediately for that of *Donna Lucinda*, and not finding it, he ſoon concluded where the fatal Error was committed; ſo he ran in all haſt to the Queen-Mother's Apartment, caſt himſelf at her feet, conjured her to forgive *Lucinda*, to conſider her Youth, her Birth, and the humble tender Intreaties he made in her behalf, but he found the Queen inflexible. Seeing at laſt that he was not able to move her, he told her, he knew a way how to revenge himſelf upon her. She asked him what it was? He replied, that he would hinder *Valenzuela* from ever coming back again; and that ſhe ſhould behold him no more. The Queen very much enraged at this Anſwer, told him, that ſhe was ſenſible enough of the ill will he bore her, but that ſhe did not fear the Effects of it; that it was a long time ſince ſhe had loſt *Valenzuela*, who was indeed one of the beſt Servants ſhe ever

had, but that ſhe was now accuſtomed to bear his abſence. Afterwards ſhe added theſe words, looking earneſtly upon him, *I would adviſe you for your own ſake to hinder his return, for if ever he comes to know that ſuch a fellow as you had the boldneſs to diſpleaſe me, he would tear you in pieces, as a Lion does a She-Goat.*

D' Eguya poſſeſſed with Rage, took the firſt favourable Opportunity to ſpeak to the King in prejudice of *Valenzuela*; *He repreſented to him, That he was a bold intriguing Man; that if the Queen had him with her, they two would raiſe Factions together, in which they would engage all the turbulent Spirits in the Kingdom; that by this means they would diſturb the Tranquillity he now enjoyed; that the Queen ſtill regretted the Time and Authority of the Regency; that it was dangerous to ſhew favours to any of thoſe Perſons who had been her Creatures of old.* In a word, he ſo well managed the King upon this occaſion, that he bid him iſſue out an Order, ſuch as he judged convenient, to hinder the coming back of the unfortunate *Valenzuela*; *d'Eguya* loſt no time about it, and the ſubſtance of the Order was, That if they met him upon the Sea in his return to *Spain*, they ſhould take him out of the Veſſel where he was, and reembark him in that which brought the Order, and ſo carry him to *Cartagne* in the *Weſt-Indies*. The Queen-Mother for her part ſent away *Donna Lucinda* in private, with Orders to Ship her at the *Groyn*, and to Tranſport her to *Flanders*, where ſhe had ſent word to Prince *Alexander* of *Parma*, to get her ſhut up in a Nunnery:

Nunnery. But *Don Geronimo d'Eguya* having found means to acquaint himſelf of what had hapned, diſpatched an Order of the Chief Miniſter to the *Groyne*, to bring *Donna Lucinda* back to one of her Relations, who had agreed to take care of her.

The Duke *de Medina Celi* eſpouſed *d'Eguya's* ſide in this Diſpute with a mighty heat. The Affair blew over at Court without any noiſe or buſtle; as for the Queen Mother ſhe ſpoke nothing at all of it, becauſe it had then been neceſſary to produce *Lucinda's* Letter, which was by no means convenient to be ſhown, for the ſeveral fierce and diſreſpectful things contained in it. On the other hand, *d'Eguya* had no Temptation to ſpeak of it, for being Secretary of State, and under an Obligation to preſerve his *Spaniſh* Gravity, he was not willing to diſcover his Amorous weakneſſes to the World.

D'Eguya, who was the ſole cauſe of the ill underſtanding between the Queen-Mother and the Duke *de Medina Celi*, uſed all his Endeavours to increaſe it ſtill, and in order to accompliſh his deſigns, alarmed the Duke perpetually with all that he had reaſon to apprehend from the Reſentments and Indignation of that Princeſs. What he whiſpered to him, ſerved to exaſperate the Chief Miniſter more and more againſt her, and this made him keep a fair Correſpondence with her no longer. He conſidered with himſelf, that he ſtood firm in the King's Affection, and that the Father Confeſſor and *d'Eguya*, who had more frequent

occaſions to diſcourſe his Majeſty than he had, would take care to confirm him in all the favourable Diſpoſitions he had for the Duke. This Triumvirate began at the ſame time to ſow the Seeds of Diſcord between the King and the Queen-Mother. No body durſt acquaint the King with the Reaſons that inclined them to act ſo violently, they had ſeen after what manner the Chief Miniſter had treated thoſe Perſons who were not of his ſide, and they had no mind to draw down his Anger upon themſelves. The great Officers belonging to the King's Houſhold ſeemed to depend intirely upon him; the Gentlemen of the Chamber, who waited every day in their turn, pay'd a no leſs abject Submiſſion to the Favourite, and thoſe who had Sincerity enough to ſpeak, conſidering the Injury they might hereby do themſelves, left the Province of better informing the King to ſome body elſe who had more Zeal, and leſs Policy: ſo that the Duke *de Medina Celi*, *d'Eguya*, and the Confeſſor, finding a clear field, gave his Majeſty what ill Impreſſions they pleaſed, in relation to the Queen-Mother; they aſſured him that nothing in the World could make her forget the Troubles and ill uſage ſhe had found when *Don Juan* governed all; that although ſhe had reaſon enough to believe that when that Miniſter treated her ſo rudely, he acted only by himſelf; yet it was certainly true that all was done under the Name and Authority of the King; that therefore ſhe would always remember, it was he that abetted the Perſecu-

tion

tion ſhe had ſuffered; and that he ought to conſider, that it was by no means ſafe to repoſe any Confidence in a reconciled Enemy. The natural goodneſs of the King, and the Reſpect he had for the Queen his Mother, hindered him from being abſolutely influenced by the pernicious Counſels they gave him; however they prevailed ſo far upon him as to render him jealous, and conſequently cold and reſerved to her; ſhe eaſily perceived it, and was well informed of all their Deſigns, but whether ſhe judged it was by no means a proper time to endeavour the Deſtruction of her Enemies, or whether ſhe had ſome other reaſons to diſſwade her from attempting it, ſhe did not move at all in that Affair, and a ſhort time after ſhe never went out of her Palace but only to make Viſits of common decency to the King and Queen.

The Chief Miniſter, the Father Confeſſor, and *d'Eguya* applauded one onother for having removed the Queen-Mother from all ſhare in the Adminiſtration of Affairs; but fearing leſt the young Queen might become ſerviceable to her in this conjuncture, they found it convenient to render the Queen-Mother ſuſpected to her. They took a very odd way to effect it, but one that ſerved their turn as well as any; that is to ſay, they began to inſpire the King with a diſlike of the Queen's Conduct, wherein they made him obſerve abundance of inconſiderable ſlight things, which they interpreted to him with ſo much the more Malignity, becauſe the Queen acting without any

reſerve, as all perſons of Sincerity uſe to do, never reſtrained her own natural Temper.

Sometimes the King expreſſed to her ſome diſſatisfaction at it, and this afflicted her extreamly, but while ſhe looked about her to find out who thoſe Perſons were that did her theſe ill Offices, ſome of the Duke's Confidents gave her to underſtand that all this came from the Queen-Mother, who ſeeing ſhe had no Children, endeavoured to render the King indifferent to her, that ſo ſhe might arrive to what ſhe ſo earneſtly deſired, which was to ſee the Arch Dutcheſs Queen of *Spain*. The young Queen found ſome appearances of truth in what they told her, and this threw her into a dejection of Mind, that really made her an object of Compaſſion. Another Affliction was joyned to this, and contributed to augment her Grief, and that was to ſee the little Credit ſhe had to obtain what ever ſhe deſired.

For although the Chief Miniſter had promiſed to be always devoted to her Service, and ſhe had accepted of the Dutcheſs *d'Albuquerque* chiefly upon his Recommendation, yet he ſeemed not at all to be ſenſible of it, and never obliged her in any tolerable manner. It was to no purpoſe that ſhe begged any favour of the King, and it was to as little purpoſe that his Majeſty granted them; for he no ſooner ſpoke to the Duke about them, but the Duke diſſwaded him from doing what the Queen deſired; in ſuch manner, that if ſhe requeſted any thing it was ſufficient for her to

to reſt aſſured that ſhe ſhould loſe the fruit of her Prayers. The Queen who had a great deal of Wit and Penetration, and who knew what obſtacles the Chief Miniſter always laid in her way, could not forbear to ſpeak to the King about him in a moſt preſſing earneſt manner, which intimated to him his unaccountable fondneſs for the Chief Miniſter, and ſometimes ſhe cloſed the diſcourſe with a particular detail of the diſorders which were to be found in all Affairs by reaſon of the Duke's inſufferable negligence. The King gave *d'Eguya* an Account of what the Queen told him, *d'Eguya* carried all to the Duke to make his Court by it, and this ſtill occaſioned freſh Complaints on one ſide and t'other. The young Queen by this means compleatly loſt that little Intereſt ſhe had in the Chief Miniſter, and ſometimes could not tell what meaſures ſhe ought to take to ſtrengthen and ſupport her own Authority.

The Queen was conſidering with her ſelf what the Occaſion might be that made the Duke *de Medina Celi* neglect to give her that deference he was obliged to pay her for ſo many reaſons; and the Duke being informed that the Queen's Reſentments againſt him daily increaſed, made uſe of the Marqueſs *d'Aſtorgas*'s Confeſſor to tell him who belonged to the Queen, that her Majeſty made a wrong judgment of his Inclinations; that he ſhould always be ready to give her all imaginable Teſtimonies of his Reſpect and Fidelity, but that it was an ungrateful diſpleaſing ſight to him to

ſee

ſee her Majeſty ſhew ſuch particular Favours to Perſons directly oppoſite to him, amongſt whom he reckoned the Marchioneſs *de Liche*, the Counteſs *de Monterey*, the Princeſs *de Stillano*, the Dutcheſs *d'Oſſone*, the Marchioneſs *de los Velez*, the Dutcheſs *de l'Infantado*, and ſome others: That if ſhe would be pleaſed to remove thoſe Ladies, or at leaſt not entertain them with ſuch evident diſtinctions of kindneſs, he ſhould receive it with a moſt ſenſible acknowledgment, and omit no opportunity to give her all the proofs of Gratitude he was capable of. He added, that without conſulting his particular Intereſts in this, he was obliged to acquaint her Majeſty, as being her Servant, that it was not the Cuſtom of *Spain* for the Ladies to have ſuch free acceſs into the Queens Apartment, and that generally they were introduced by the *Camerara Major* only. The Queen liſtned to this Advice the Chief Miniſter ſent her, but had no Inclinations to follow it, becauſe ſhe found he deſigned to ſubject her intirely to the Dutcheſs *d'Albuquerque* after the ſame manner as ſhe had been to the Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova*.

She knew that in all the differences he had with the Queen-Mother the *Camerara Major* always declared for him, that ſhe embraced his Intereſts with more Zeal than her own, and that ſhe had clearly forgotten all that the Queen-Mother had done for her to advance her to this place. The Queen had no deſire to throw her ſelf again into a Captivity, from which ſhe had lately got her ſelf delivered with ſo much difficulty. Thus ſhe was content to examine the

Mo-

Motives which made them ſet ſo many Intreagues on foot, but had no mind to be the Victim.

The Duke had ſo preſſing a deſire to poſſeſs the ſole Affections of his Maſter, that he could never forgive thoſe Perſons who were in a Capacity to become his Rivals; and he added a certain Air of Sincerity to his Words, whenever he ſpoke ill of any one, that the King was really perſwaded he had no private by-ends in doing it: His Relations, nay, even his Friends had no more Priviledges than others, who were indifferent to him. The Duke was believed, becauſe he always paſſed for an honeſt Gentleman; but one ought to have a great Fund of Vertue, not to be corrupted when he becomes a Favourite. He repreſented to the King, all thoſe that came near his Perſon, as ſo many ſecret Enemies and Domeſtick Spies, who had neither Zeal nor Affection for him: And theſe Impreſſions wrought ſo far upon the King's Spirit, that he was ſcarce ever able to wear them off. The Duke not only did ill Offices to thoſe that belonged to the King's Houſhold, but he extended his Malice to all thoſe who were able to maintain any Intelligence between the Queen and the Queen-Mother. He was perſwaded, that the Ambaſſador of *France* and his Lady, contributed to it all that lay in their Power; and this made him conceive an Averſion for them both: He ſpoke of them daily to the King, after a very diſobliging manner, and laid ſeveral things to their charge where-

wherein they were not concerned. This made the King ſo mightily diſpleaſed with them, that he could not forbear to tell the Queen one Day, as they accidentally talked of the Marqueſs *de Villars*, 'That he had poy-'ſoned all the Court, and that he would ra-'ther chuſe to have an open War with *France*, 'than ſuch an Ambaſſador at *Madrid*. He after this let fall ſome reflecting Words againſt the Ambaſſador's Lady, which ſufficiently teſtified what ſtrange Thoughts he had of her, although we may ſafely ſay, that neither ſhe nor her Husband deſerved it. But the Reaſon why the Chief Miniſter was ſo provok'd againſt them, was, becauſe he was well informed, that the Prince *de Stillano*, the Count *de Monterey*, the Duke *de Veraguas*, the Admiral of *Caſtile*, and ſome others, had ſeen him in private, and communicated to him their Deſigns againſt him, to which he was to contribute ſomething on his ſide, by getting the Queen to ſupport the Project. But ſuppoſe the Ambaſſador really knew of their Intentions, this is no good Conſequence, that he was willing to ſecond them; and indeed there is little probability to believe it, becauſe the Ambaſſador had no Reaſon to deſire the Removal of the Chief Miniſter; and the Duke's Abilities were not ſo formidable, that the Court of *France* had any occaſion to be apprehenſive of him.

While the Court at *Madrid* was thus divided about the little Intrigues I have mentioned, the People continued to cry out and com-

plain

plain of their Grievances, becauſe no care was taken to redreſs them. It was now a full year ſince the Duke *de Medina Celi* had been made Chief Miniſter, and it was hoped that he would have taken all neceſſary meaſures in a matter ſo preſſing and important, as was the eaſing of the People; but he ſo far forgot his Duty, that every thing went worſe and worſe ſtill; and indeed the leaſt Inconveniencies ſenſibly improve in their malignity, when they are neglected. The leſſening the Value of the Copper-Money had occaſioned a great Diſorder: 'Tis true indeed it might have been managed to the Publick Advantage, but they took ſuch wrong meaſures in the Regulation, that it became a moſt horrible Oppreſſion; for the Species of Gold and Silver being thus reduced to one half of its juſt Value, Forreigners took ſuch hold of this opportunity, that they exported prodigious Sums out of the Kingdom. Beſides this, the Price of *Segovia* Wooll, which is an excellent Commodity, and brings a mighty Profit to thoſe that deal in it, roſe in proportion to the Abatement of the Money; ſo that no body would buy it, unleſs they would ſink the Price: And things being in this condition, then at laſt came the crying down of the Money, and this totally compleated and ratified their Miſery. There was computed to be of it to the Value of Six Millions of Crowns. The King did not at all take them off, although he had promiſed by his Edict, to pay the full Value of the Metal, to thoſe who brought them into the

the Offices appointed to receive them. So all this Money lay abſolutely dead: and it is no eaſie matter to expreſs the Loſs which the Bankers, the Merchants, the King's Farmers, and almoſt every private Man ſuffered by this decrying of it down. Forreigners were the only Men that made Advantage of this General Misfortune of *Spain*: They bought this Copper Money, that was mixt with a good Allay of Silver, for very little, and ſent it to *Genoa*, to *Portugal*, and other Places. The Council very well knew the Prejudice the Kingdom received by it, and Aſſembled ſeveral times to find out an Expedient to put a ſtop to it: There were ſome Undertakers, that offered to treat for all of it, and ſeparate the Silver from the Copper; and, as I ſaid before, *Don Philip Vinzani*, was made choice of in this Affair; but he had not been preferred before others, if it had not been for the Credit of *Don Pedro de Arragon*. This Man owed him great Sums of Money, and had been twice Bankrupt, and was juſt upon the Point of breaking the third time; ſo he was deſirous to introduce him into ſome great buſineſs, that he might by this means enrich himſelf, and be in a capacity of paying his Debts: But this Project did not ſucceed, becauſe ſo great a quantity of this Money was already carried out of the Kingdom, and the ſeparating of the Allay was ſo difficult a matter.

Theſe

Theſe Loſſes were the cauſe that abundance of Perſons of great Quality found themſelves under a neceſſity of ſelling their Plate and Jewels. 'Tis true, there is ſo much both of the one and the other at *Madrid*, that it cannot well fail in a long time. What made ſeveral private Men ſuffer the more, was, that the Rents of the Town-Hall, which were reduced from eight to five in the hundred, were not now paid at all, becauſe the *Corregidors* and *Regidors*, who were concerned in the payment of it, were ſuch great Villains, that although the City was ſufficiently haraſſed with Cuſtoms, Taxes, and heavy Duties, before theſe People had drained it as long as they pleaſed, and that they had put ſome ſmall inconſiderable matter of it into the King's Coffers, there was nothing left more out of ſo many Impoſts, and yet they were not levied for the greateſt part, but under the pretence of ſatisfying the Rents of the Town-Hall.

But how was it poſſible to put things, as they now ſtood, into a better Order? It was reſolved, that there ſhould not be above four *Regidors*; there had been more than fifty, and their Places were worth ſixty thouſand Crowns. It is certain, that before they could reimburſe themſelves of ſuch a Sum, they muſt be guilty of great Extortion and Cheating.

An Order was ſent from *Madrid* to all the Ports to publiſh Repriſals in favour of the Subjects of the King of *Spain*, upon the Veſſels belonging to the Elector of *Brandenburgh*. I have already ſpoke of the Veſſel which that Elector's

Elector's Subjects had taken away from his Catholick Majesty. The Elector had allowed three Months to redeem her, but they were not in a condition to do it. The Ambassadors of *England* and *Holland* laboured to Accommodate the Business with no Success, because the Elector declared he would be paid his Eight Hundred Thousand Crowns that were due to him, and he would restore nothing but upon that condition. And therefore the Court would rather suffer him to enjoy his Prize: however, to save the Honour of *Spain*, the Ministers pretended that the King would have his Vessel restored before he would do any thing, and that he refused to hearken to any other Proposal, till that were executed.

The Queen-Mother, who seldom stirred abroad, and who lived a very Melancholy Life at her Palace, invited the Young Queen one day to Dinner, when the King was gone out a Hunting: They afterwards shut themselves up in the Queen-Mother's great Closet, and (as she told the Marchioness *de Mortare*, from whom I afterwards had the Story) they began to weep, and embrace one another very tenderly. The Queen-Mother complained, *That the Queen her Daughter-in-law, had prejudiced the King against her, and that she suffered as great a Confinement, as if* Don Juan *did still Govern; that she was not ignorant that the Duke* de Medina Celi, d'Eguya, *and the Confessor did her all the ill Offices they were able; that if she had only these to Combat, she would endeavour to destroy them; that perhaps she might be able to accom-*

accompliſh it; but that when ſhe ſaw the Queen at the Head of the Party, ſhe had no Courage left to defend her ſelf; that although ſhe very well knew ſhe had promiſed to do her all the injury ſhe could, yet ſhe could not forbear to ſpeak to her of it, rather to eaſe her ſelf, than out of any hopes to ſoften her diſpoſitions. Alas, Madam, Alas, cryed the Young Queen all in Tears, *why do you add ſuch ſtabbing Suſpicions to the other ills you have done me? Could you not be content to poyſon my Conduct before the King, and make him ſhew me a thouſand ſenſible unkindneſſes upon that ſcore, but muſt you inſult upon me too, and accuſe me of the only thing in the World I am uncapable of doing?* At theſe words the Queen-Mother ſtretched out her Arms to her, and they tarried a conſiderable ſpace of time without being able to ſpeak a Syllable, ſo much were both their minds prepoſſeſſed againſt each other: But at laſt, when they could ſpeak in cold Blood, and came to examine what had been ſaid on both ſides, they were ſenſible that ſome ill Perſons had endeavoured to diſunite them, in order to Fortifie their own Party, which was equally contrary to them both. They gave one another an Account of the meaſures that had been taken, of the Perſons that were concerned in them, of thoſe whom they ought to ſuſpect for the time to come, and they reſolved to employ all their Intereſt to deſtroy the oppoſite Cabal. They ſtaid together till it was Night, and on the next day, which was the fifth of *February*, the Conſtable of *Caſtile* gave the King and the two Queens a Magni-

ficent Collation, accompanied with Muſick. The King's Dwarf, who is one of the prettieſt Creatures in the World, whom the Conſtable brought with him from his Government of *Flanders*, where he ſucceeded *Don Juan*, danced a * *Paſſa Cailla* along with a young Girl whom the Queen had taken to her Service, and was newly redeemed out of Slavery. They were both of them dreſs'd after the *Indian* Faſhion, covered with Feathers of Birds of different colours; they had little Tabors, and played prettily upon them. This Feaſt was followed by another at the Houſe of *Don Pedro d' Arragon*, where the Queen danced before the King, which ſhe had never done before, although ſhe acquitted her ſelf that way to admiration. She had purpoſely learned the *Canaries* and a *Saraband*, ſo that the King was perfectly charmed to ſee her ſo expert in the *Spaniſh* Dances, and told her ſeveral times as he preſſed her Arms with his two Hands, *Mi Reina, Mi Reina, eres la mas perfeta de todo el Orbe:* That is to ſay, *My Queen, My Queen, you are the moſt accompliſhed Perſon in the whole World.* The Queen-Mother ſent her that Evening a Watch all adorned with Diamonds, and a Gold Chain of exquiſite Work; ſhe writ a Letter to her, wherein ſhe wiſhed that this Watch would only ſhew her happy and pleaſant Hours. The Queen returned her this Anſwer, That they would be always ſo, if ſhe would continue to love her. She afterwards deſired the King to tell her ſome tender thing,

* A Ground.

thing, that ſhe might ſend it to the Queen-Mother. The King told her immediately, *No tengo que deſir.* How, Sir, ſays the Queen, have you nothing to ſay to the Queen your Mother? I beſeech you to give me a Complement that may pleaſe her. The King ſtudied a long time what to ſend her, and at laſt ſaid, *Ponga os mi Reina que jo tongo buſna ſalud.* That is to ſay, *Write, my Queen, that I am well.*

The King diſpatched an Order to Prince *Alexander*, Governour of the *Low-Countries*, to make a grand Reform amongſt the Officers of War and Juſtice. He gave at the ſame time the Vice-Roy-ſhip of *Navar* to the Great Prior of *Caſtile*. The Count *de Fuen Salida*, who poſſeſſed that Poſt, went to *Gallicia*, whereof he was made Vice-Roy. The Count *de Palma*, Nephew to Cardinal *Portocarero*, had the Government of *Malaga*, and the Coaſts of *Granada*, in the room of the Count *de Cifuentes*; and the Duke *de Hijar*, Son-in-law to the Dutcheſs *de Terra-Nova*, obtained the Vice-Roy-ſhip of *Arragon*. This Dutcheſs had not appeared at Court ever ſince ſhe had quitted it with ſo great a Diſguſt: But her Son-in-law having now received this new Favour, ſhe was reſolved to go and viſit the Queen on the tenth of *February*. She had already ſent to her Majeſty to demand her Permiſſion, and the Queen ſent her word, that ſhe ſhould be glad to ſee her. The Dutcheſs at her entrance into the Queen's Chamber, ſeemed at firſt a little diſordered: She excuſed her not coming to Court upon the account of a long Fit of Sickneſs,

and then added, *I aſſure your Majeſty I did not think I ſhould have been able to live, after my misfortune to be ſeparated from you.* The Queen told her, that ſhe had been informed of her Indiſpoſition, but that this was not a place for her to ſpeak of what made her uneaſie, and in effect paſſed to ſome other Diſcourſe. The Dutcheſs *de Terra Nova* fixed her Eyes continually on the Dutcheſs *d' Albuquerque*, as if ſhe had a mind to devour her; and the Dutcheſs *d' Albuquerque*, whoſe Eyes were neither better nor ſweeter than hers, looked askew upon her, and they let fall every other moment ſome Expreſſions that were a little eager.

One of the Footmen belonging to the *Venetian* Ambaſſador had committed ſome Inſolence, and the Juſtices ordered him to be Apprehended for it: but this Miniſter pretending that it was againſt the Priviledge of Ambaſſadors, complained of it to the Duke *de Medina Celi*, but did not receive ſo favourable an Anſwer from him as he expected. This ſo much diſguſted him, that he went to acquaint the reſt of the Ambaſſadors with it, who all agreed to repreſent the Conſequences of ſuch an Action to the Duke *de Medina Celi* in a large Memorial conceived in very harſh terms, which they ſent to him all at the ſame time. The Chief Miniſter carried it to the Council of State, who, after they had maturely deliberated upon the Affair, were of Advice that they ſhould ſet the Footman immediately at liberty. The Ambaſſadors were reſolved, in caſe they

they had refuſed them this Satisfaction, to have forced the Priſon to fetch him out.

Conſtable *Colonna* came back to *Madrid* in *February*. The moſt important Affair that brought him thither, was his deſire to Accommodate Matters with his Lady, and to find out a way for both of them to live in peace. The Marriage of his Son with the Daughter of the Duke *de Medina Celi* did alſo take him up very much. The Queen was concerned at the Misfortunes of his Wife, and it was no ſmall trouble to her to underſtand what ill Uſage a Perſon of her Quality received in Priſon: Nay, ſhe was particularly obliged to protect her, by reaſon of the Promiſe the Duke had made her, and the Confidence the Conſtable's Lady repoſed in it. Theſe Reaſons engaged her to charge her Confeſſor to do all he could with the Conſtable, in order to Negotiate an Accommodation, and ſee whether he would carry her into *Italy*, or ſuffer her to ſtay in ſome Religious Convent at *Madrid*, as ſhe had already been. But the Conſtable and his Wife were ſtrangely exaſperated againſt one another: She reſented to the Life the unworthy Treatment ſhe had received, and the mutual occaſions they had to complain, hindered them from conſenting to what might contribute to their common Satisfaction. At laſt, the Conſtable being earneſtly importuned by the Queen, and adviſed by the Marqueſs *de Los Balbazez*, propoſed, that his Wife ſhould turn a Religious, and that he, for his part, ſhould take the Habit of a

Knight of *Malta*. This at firſt appeared very ſurpriſing to all the World, but indeed was more ſtrange to the Conſtable's Lady than to any one; for 'tis certain ſhe had no great deſire to that Life, and her Inclination did not very well reliſh three mortifying Vows, an auſtere Cloyſtering, and a ſevere Rule. Nevertheleſs, the Conſtable was ſo poſitive, that all his Wive's Friends were ſatisfied there was no other Way to deliver the Unfortunate Lady out of the Caſtle of *Segovia*, but by obliging her to give her Conſent to what he propoſed. Thus at laſt they prevailed upon her to conſent to it; ſo ſhe was brought back to *Madrid* on the 15*th* of *February*, 1681. where ſhe immediately was ſhut up amongſt the Nuns of the Conception of the Order of St. *Jerome*. She was ſo afflicted at her Misfortunes, that ſhe would ſee no body but her Children: She told them, ſhe looked upon her ſelf to be the moſt Unfortunate Creature in the World, and that ſhe was going to do a thing which might coſt her the Repoſe of her Life; That ſhe beheld the Conſequences of it with Terror, but that nevertheleſs ſhe was reſolved to undergo it, becauſe ſhe had given her Promiſe. In effect, ſhe went down into the Quire, where every thing was prepared for the Ceremony, and ſhe took upon her the Habit of a Novice, but with a formal deſign to die rather than make Profeſſion. She wore a Petticoat of Gold and Silver Brocard, under her Woollen Robe, and when ſhe was not in company with any of the Nuns, ſhe would

throw

throw her Veil aſide, and put a Coif upon her Head, after the *Spaniſh* Mode, dreſt with Ribbons of all Colours. Sometimes it ſo happened, that the Bell rung to Chappel, where ſhe was obliged to make her Appearance by the Rule of her Order; and the Miſtreſs of the Novices coming to inform her of it, ſhe clapt on her Frock and Veil over her Ribans and her looſe Hair; This made a very odd and Comical Figure, aud no body could have forborn laughing at it, had not her Miſeries on the other hand, drawn the Compaſſion of all Perſons that knew her; for indeed her Condition was very neceſſitous; ſhe wanted Money, had but mean Eating, and yet worſe Lodging. One Day as I happened to be in the Queen's Retinue, I entred into the Convent, and the Conſtable's Lady carried me to her Chamber; I was like to have been ſtarved with the Cold there; it was as high as a Tennis-Court; and, not to flatter the Place it was no better than a great Barn. The Conſtable got a Diſpenſation from *Rome* to haſten the time of her Profeſſion; and he himſelf was obliged, as I have already ſaid, to take the Vows of the Order of *Malta*, but he was told every day, that his Wife had an unconquerable Averſion to become a Religious, and at laſt had no hopes of it: The Marqueſs *de Los Balbazez*, as well as the Marchioneſs, were not a little concerned to be laught at by all the World. The Conſtable concluded the Marriage of his Eldeſt Son with the Daughter of the Duke *de Medina Celi*, and parted three

days after to return to *Rome*: He carried his Siſter in Law, and his two Sons along with him. As for his Lady, ſhe ſtill tarried in the Convent, where ſhe wore the Habit of a Religious long enough, and at laſt quitted it.

The King and Queen went to the *Jeſuites Colledge*, to ſee a Tragedy, where a Young Scholar, who Perſonated a Fury, coming upon the Theatre with a lighted Torch in his Hand, perceived his Tutor in a corner, who Acted a Chymiſt; in all appearance he bore him a Grudge; for he run after him, and burnt his Beard and Hair, and purſued him like a real Fury indeed. He play'd his part ſo well, that the King was mightily pleaſed with him, and would needs have them begin that Scene again, becauſe it was the prettieſt in the Play. The Scholar deſired it with all his heart, but neither his Tutor, nor any of the Colledge, had a mind to be concerned in the other part. The *Carnival* approached, and a Comedy was play'd the Three laſt Days of it at Court. On the 19*th* of *February*, which was *Aſh-Wedneſday*, the King had a Solemn Service at the Chappel Royal, and ordered the Ambaſſadors to be told, that he would continue to have one every Week, except *Holyday-Week*.

In the mean time the Duke *de Medina Celi* applied himſelf ſeriouſly to find out means to ſet a Fleet to Sea by the Spring, and treated with ſome of the principal Bankers of *Madrid*, whoſe Names were *Dominico Grillo*, *Franciſco*

ciſco de Monſerato, and *Ambroſio Dionis*. The firſt engaged to ſend a Hundred Thouſand Piaſters a Month to *Flanders*, the ſecond to remit Fifty Thouſand to *Catalonia*, and the third Thirty Thouſand to *Navar*. But what ſignified all theſe Treaties, ſince they were not in a Condition to furniſh neceſſary Funds? The Court received Advice from *Naples*, from whence they expected ſome Supplies in Money, That the Prince *de Belvidere*, and ſeveral of the principal Barons, were retired to their reſpective Countrey-Houſes, by Reaſon of the great Diſorders and Miſery of that City. Beſides this, they were informed, that the Inhabitants of *Trapan*, and of Two other Cities in that Kingdom, had made an Inſurrection, killed their Governour and Judges, and at the ſame time had ſent to demand Aſſiſtance of the *Turks*. This News found but an Unwelcome Reception at *Madrid*.

There arrived alſo at Court a Deputy of the Commerce at *Sevil*, with whom I had a long Converſation. He aſſured me, that that great and ſtately City was reduced to a condition which amazed all the World; That there did not now remain one Fourth Part of its Inhabitants; That the Impoſts increaſed every day, and that this City, which but about Fifty years ago, was one of the Richeſt in the Univerſe, was now ready to ſink for want of Relief, although the Gallions arrived there, and it ſtill enjoy'd the moſt conſiderable Trade of any Place in *Spain*. We may hence juſtly conclude, in what a ſad condition the reſt

reſt of the Cities of *Spain* were reduced to, ſince the beſt of them was almoſt ruined. This Reaſon obliged me to enquire of a certain Gentleman, who was well acquainted in thoſe Affairs, what the Revenues of the King of *Spain* might amount to? He told me, That in ready Money only, which came from the *Indies*, they amounted to Thirty Millions, and Eight Hundred Thouſand Ducats, which in *French* Money is worth ſomewhat more than Seventy five Millions of Livres: But then it ought to be obſerved, that the King does not touch a third part of this Sum, the greateſt part of it being either otherwiſe engaged or purloined; And yet out of this third part are to be defrayed the Expences of the Palace, the Penſions his Majeſty beſtows, and the Payment of his Armies. He is likewiſe obliged to be ſtill ſending conſiderable Sums to *Milan*, to *Naples*, to *Meſſina*, to *Catalonia*, and to *Flanders*: For the Vice-Roys and Governours take effectual care that the King ſhall not draw a Farthing out of thoſe Kingdoms and Provinces; they keep all the Profits to themſelves: And this is the Reaſon why Money is ſo often wanting, even for the neceſſary occaſions of the King's Houſe. But after all, I can by no means be perſwaded, but that he is Richer than he is generally ſuppoſed to be; for there is no probability that otherwiſe he could be able to give, as he does, ſuch conſiderable Penſions, and ſo much in ſtanding Wages, to ſo vaſt a number of People. It is true, theſe Liberalities ſo mightily incommoded

ded him, that about the beginning of the Year 1681. all the Livery-men of the Stables having waited Two Years together for their Wages, left the King's Service on the ſame day, and looked abroad to get a Livelihood; ſo that his Horſes had no body to look after them, or give them Corn. This appeared ſo much the leſs ſurpriſing, becauſe the Table of the Gentlemen of his Bed-Chamber, was abſolutely laid aſide, although it was the only one the King kept in his Palace. The Women that waited upon the Queen had no better luck, and the Court could not be ſupplied with Money enough to defray the leaſt Expences. This Extremity laſted for a while, and then things were eſtabliſhed as formerly. But what is very remarkable, and deſerves the laſt Commendation, the Souldiers, notwithſtanding this Miſery, continued ſtill in the Service; although there were ſeveral Officers, nay, entire Regiments of them that had not received two Months pay in three Years. However this was the reaſon that abundance of Garriſons were ill provided with men, and in a very bad Condition, and particularly on the ſide of *Eſtra Madura*, where nevertheleſs it was their Intereſt to have been more careful, becauſe the *Portugueſes* had very conſiderable Poſts in that part of the Country.

We ſaw the Governours of St. *Sebaſtian*, *Bilboa*, and *Fontarabia* at *Madrid*, who came on purpoſe to acquaint the Council of War, that their Souldiers died of hunger, that the youngeſt of them had deſerted, that none but the

the old and infirm were left behind in the Garriſons; and that in a ſhort time there would be none of theſe left, unleſs they gave them a ſpeedy Relief. They had fair Promiſes made them, they returned back, but were forgotten as well as a great number of others.

It is indeed ſurprizing, and cannot eaſily be believed, that in this very *Spain*, ſo exceſſively poor and exhauſted, as it ſeems to be, the *Flota* from the *Indies* only, in the year 1680. brought thirty Millions of Gold. But of theſe prodigious Summs that arrive there every year, we muſt deduct near two thirds which the Forreigners draw away for the ſeveral Goods they furniſh them with; and beſides there is a way found to cheat the King of the fifth Penny, which is due to him out of all the Silver that comes from the *Indies*. There is another thing ſtill behind that contributes exceedingly to make the *Spaniards* ſo deſtitute of Money as they are, and that is the prodigious number of *French* and *Dutch* who come to help them, whether in the tillage of the Ground, or in their Buildings, or any other things of a more ſervile Nature, which the *Don Diegos* and the *Don Rodriguez* think ſo much below them, either out of a Principle of Vanity or Idleneſs, that they had rather chuſe to ſtarve, than reſolve to ſet about them. But Foreigners are not ſo nice and delicate, they come hither, and when they have ſcraped a little Mony together, they return to their own Country, in the mean time others come in their room; and are employed in the ſame work. They are com-

computed generally to be full forty thouſand, who come in and go out of the Kingdom after this manner, and there is not one of them who does not carry away with him ſeven or eight Piſtoles every year, and ſometimes more. It is eaſie to judge that this ariſes to a prodigious Summ.

The People ſtill continued to cry out and exclaim, and at laſt the Duke fatigu'd with the great buſineſs he had upon his hands, and with theſe continual Complaints, reſolved to erect a Junćto to ſet things in Order again, and endeavour to relieve the preſent Neceſſities. He caſt his Eyes upon a Perſon of great Abilities, whoſe Name was *Don Lopez de los Rios*, and whoſe Vertue and Experience were ſufficiently known, for he had always bore ſome Office either in the Civil Government, or the Finances. He at firſt ſhew'd a great Zeal, and the heat of this Zeal did not at all abate in his Mind, but he found himſelf not ſtrong enough to cope with all the Enemies alone, whom he muſt expect to create by a ſevere and ſteady Conduct. Several Perſons, nay even the Miniſters intereſted in theſe Affairs, directly thwarted him, and by this means deſtroyed all that he had eſtabliſhed with ſo much Pains and Induſtry.

On the 23*d.* of *February* a private Act of the Inquiſition was performed in the Church of the *Dominicans*, where twenty Perſons were condemned for being guilty of Superſtition, Sorcery, and Judaiſm. The Duke *de Villa Hermoſa*, who came back from *Flanders*, arri-

ved

ved about this time at *Madrid*, and the Duke *d' Hijar* parted from thence to go to *Saragoſſa*, and take Poſſeſſion of the Viceroyſhip of *Arragon*. Two days after this, which was the *26th* of *February*, the Marqueſs *du Mondejar* was made a Grandee of *Spain*.

The Duke *d' Oſſone* who now began to be weary of not ſupplying his Place himſelf, deſired ſome of his Friends to intercede with the King in his behalf that he might come to Court; and the King conſented to it, with this Proviſo, that he ſhould perform his Duty better for the time to come. The Count *de Pouar*, and the Count *de Montiel* were forbidden the Court; both of them were paſſionately in love with *Donna Franciſca d'Alcannicas*, Lady of Honour to the Queen, and Niece to the Conſtable of *Caſtile*. The Count *de Pouar* was under her Chamber Window, and entertained her there with his Fingers as is the manner of *Spain*, and told her a Story very much to the diſadvantage of the Count *de Montiel*, who lay hid in a corner where he ſaw and underſtood all, ſo that coming towards the Count *de Pouar* all enraged, with his hand upon the guard of the Sword, he told him he was a perfidious Villain, and that he might thank his good Fortune for being in the Palace. The Count *de Pouar* coldly anſwered, that he would go out of it as ſoon as he had told *Donna Franciſca* two or three things he had ſtill to ſay to her, and that he came ſeaſonably enough to be a Witneſs of them, becauſe they concerned him. The Count *de Montiel* tranſported with

Choler,

Choler, was upon the point of drawing his Sword upon his Rival. But the Duke *d'Uſſeda*, Brother to *Donna Franciſca*, paſſing by that way with the Count *d'Altamire*, ſhe made them a ſign to draw near, and told them with her Fingers what had hapned. The two Lords laboured all they could to make up the quarrel between the two Rivals, and ſucceeded in it; however this Accident could not be kept ſo ſecret but that the King being informed of it, forbid them the Court.

The Duke *de Sejar* parted from hence to go and ſerve in *Flanders* in quality of a Volunteer. He was a Perſon of Illuſtrious Birth, very rich, and very young; the reaſon he did this was only becauſe he was jealous of his Lady. The Count *de Talara* had the Place of Judge of the Forreſts conferred upon him, which was vacant by the Death of the Marqueſs *de la Garde*; and *Don Franciſco de Manſerato* obtained the Title of Marqueſs *de Tamarit*. The King ordered the Council to diſcharge all the Receivers of the Impoſitions, that are laid upon the Provinces: Theſe Officers were above a thouſand, and the ſuppreſſing of them muſt needs be of great advantage to his Catholick Majeſty, and to his Subjects.

A Veſſel which came to *Cales* from the *Honduras*, brought News that the *Flota* was happily arrived on the fifth of *September*, and that the Merchants of *Lima* offered three hundred thouſand Crowns to the King, on condition that for an year and half he would not ſend the Gallions here. In the mean time ill Weather

ther hindred the Fleet, which had ſet ſail from *Cales* a little before, from doubling the Cape of St. *Vincent*; the bad effects of this Tempeſt were not only perceived at Sea, for it was ſo violent in all parts of *Caſtile*, that ſeveral Houſes were beaten down, and the exceeding Rains ſo ſwelled the Rivers, that the Roads were o'reflown, and almoſt all the Bridges carried away by the rapidity of the Waters.

This ill News was followed immediately by three Couriers, one upon the neck of another, and the firſt of them arrived on the 13*th.* of *March* from Abbot *Maſſerati*, Envoy of *Spain* in *Portugal*. He diſpatched them to inform the Council, that they had received Advice at *Lisbon* by a Veſſel, that the Governour of *Buenoſaires*, having got together abundance of *Indians*, had joyned them to his Garriſon; that on the 15*th.* of *Auguſt* 1680. he had ſurprized the Fort which the *Portugueſes* had began to build in the Iſle of St. *Gabriel*; that he had taken the Governour Priſoner, and cut the Garriſon in pieces; that the Prince-Regent, being provoked at this Inſult, had aſſembled the Council of State, where the Queen of *Portugal* was preſent; that they had reſolved to raiſe the Militia, and ſend 400 Horſe, and four Regiments of Old Soldiers into *Eſtramadura*; that it would be neceſſary to get Magazines ready on the Frontiers, and to have a General Rendezvous at *Eluas*; that having demanded Audience of the Prince-Regent, he had refuſed it him, and that in all probability a War would enſue. 'Twas expected

pected at Court that the Envoy of *Portugal* would make his Complaints, but they were extreamly ſurprized to ſee him take no notice of it at all: ſo now it was not doubted, but that this ſilence certainly preſaged a ſurprize of the *Spaniſh* Territories, like to that which the Governour of *Buenoſaires* had committed in the *Indies* upon the *Portugueſes*. The Miniſters judged it convenient to prevent this blow, and ſpoke to the *Engliſh* Ambaſſador about it, deſiring him to repreſent to the Envoy of *Portugal*, that the King of *England* would be obliged to take up Arms againſt him who firſt broke the Peace, whereof he was Guarrantee; that he had alſo a more particular Reaſon than this, foraſmuch as by the League that was concluded between the King his Maſter and his Catholick Majeſty, they had mutually engaged to Declare againſt the Enemy that fell upon either of them. This Diſcourſe was ſpoke with a great deal of heat; but the Envoy of *Portugal* anſwered him, That he looked upon him to be a Partiſan of the Court of *Spain* rather than an Ambaſſador from the King of *England*; that he knew very well he ſpoke without Order, and of his own Head: This Anſwer was followed by a Proteſtation in Writing, wherein it was declared, that the King of *England* could not upon any Reaſon whatever hinder the Prince of *Portugal* from uſing the Right of Repriſals, and endeavouring to get Satisfaction from the *Spaniards* for the Injuries received.

A little after this, the Envoy of *Portugal* received an Order from the Prince-Regent to demand Publick Audience upon this Occaſion; and told his Catholick Majeſty, that he demanded an entire Satisfaction from him, and that the Prince-Regent deſired, that they would ſet the Souldiers and Governour at Liberty; that they would puniſh thoſe of *Buenoſaires*; that they would reſtore the Ammunition and Cannon; that if the Fort were razed, they would rebuild it, or elſe ſurrender the place; that in caſe the Priſoners were ſent into *Spain*, they would ſet them at Liberty; that they would receive into the Fort of St. *Gabriel* the Garriſon which the Prince of *Portugal* ſhould ſend thither; that the Governour of *Buenoſaires* ſhould be chaſtiſed, and that an Anſwer be given in within Twenty Days, or elſe they would begin Actions of Hoſtility. Upon this the Council met, and ſpent three days to deliberate about it. They gave Orders for their Forces to march towards the moſt expoſed, defenceleſs places, and *Don Antonio Panyagua*, Maſter-General of the Camp, was charged to ſtay there, till he ſaw an end of this Affair.

Beſides they ſet forth a great Memorial, wherein were contained the Arguments which the Envoy of *Spain* had given in at *Lisbon*, to make it appear by Authentick Papers, that according to the Limits appointed by Pope *Alexander* VI. the Iſle of St. *Gabriel* belongs to the *Spaniards*, and that they have had it a hundred fourſcore and ſix Years in their poſſeſſion. After this, they took notice

notice of the Declaration of the Envoy of *Portugal*, and ended all with a Proteſtation, ſignifying, That they were deſirous to preſerve the Peace, and that they would labour with all Application in this matter. This *Manifeſto* was ſent to all the Foreign Miniſters to communicate to their Maſters; but they had ſcarce given it to them, when they ſent in all haſt back again for the Copies to Correct ſomething or other, and then they returned them again. At the ſame time a Rumour was induſtriouſly diſperſed, that the *Nuncio* by an expreſs Order from the Pope, had moved them to ſend an Ambaſſador to *Lisbon* to treat about an Accommodation. But this was really a Temperament they had found out to conceal the true motives which engaged them to make this Advance. The *Nuncio* upon this ſaid openly, that he had never interpoſed in the buſineſs, and that it was impoſſible to receive any Orders from *Rome* about ſo freſh an Affair.

The Duke *de Giovenazzo* was choſen for this Embaſſy. As ſoon as he was arrived at *Lisbon*, he ſaw the Prince-Regent, who nominated the Duke *de Cadaval*, and the Marqueſs *de Fronteyra* for Commiſſioners. He would have made his Complaints at firſt, and demanded Satisfaction: But he was told, that they were of a Humour clearly oppoſite to what he pretended; and that matters were to be done conformable to the Memorial which the Envoy of *Portugal* had preſented at *Madrid*, or elſe let the Affair go whither it would for them.

them. After ſome ſlight conteſtations, he gave his conſent to it, and diſpatched a Courier to *Madrid* to inform the Court of what he had done. Immediately the Miniſters bellowed out againſt him as a Man of no Judgment, who had violated his Fidelity to the King, pretending that he had infringed all the Rules of Prudence and good Senſe by a Conduct and an Accommodation ſo diſadvantageous to *Spain*, and that his Inſtructions furniſhed him with no ſuch Power. All theſe Circumſtances of Indignation and Reſentment were only offered to the Honour of the Nation: But notwithſtanding all this, they did not loſe a moment to conclude the Accommodation, and the Ratification of it was ſpeedily ſent to the Duke *de Giovenazzo*.

Money ſtill continued to be as ſcarce as ever at *Madrid*, and certain it is that it was the greateſt difficulty in the World for the Council to provide a hundred and fifty thouſand Crowns for the King to go to *Aranjuez*. The Ceremonial of the Palace, whereof I have already made mention, orders this Summ preciſely to be ſpent in that ſmall Journey, and here they are ſo exact to follow it, that they would not for all the World lay out a hundred Piſtoles leſs. But after the Money was once in the King's Coffers, the Council thought to ſend it to the Forces that were kept on the Borders of *Portugal*, by reaſon of the late difference about the Iſle of St. *Gabriel*. The Duke *de Medina Celi* ſpoke to the King about it, and propoſed that in this juncture they might take

Money

Money where ever they could find it; but he roundly answered him, *Do what you will, provided you don't meddle with that which is designed for Aranjuez.* He was not able to go thither all the Autumn, because such a Summ of Mony as is necessary for that purpose could not be then gotten ready. He began his Journey about the beginning of *April* 1681. being not willing to break any of the Customs that are established in the Ceremonial of the Palace: *Philip* II. observed it religiously, and after him the Kings of *Spain* have look'd upon it as Sacred as a Law. Every thing is there set down, the Processions, the Chases, the Solemn days of Chappel, the changing of their Apartments, their Habits, their Walks, their Journeys, the Presents the Kings make their Mistresses, and what is to become of them when they cease to love them any longer: In a word, there is to be found every thing from the most essential circumstance of State down to the most insignificant Trifles. The King tarried five Weeks at *Aranjuez.* This Royal House is within seven Leagues of *Madrid.* He goes no where all the year round but there, and to the *Escurial* in *October*: These are his two great Journeys.

I went thither along with a Relation of mine to take leave of the Queen, and receive her Orders. She had the goodness to promise me her Protection for a young Girl, whom I was to leave behind me in *Spain*, and was very dear to me. She told me she would take her into the Number of her Menines, and that I might assure my self she carried her own Recommen-

commendation along with her, ſince ſhe came from *France.* She honoured me with her Picture in Enamel, incircled with Diamonds, and I ſenſibly regret the loſs of it to this very day. This is not a fit place to tell how this Misfortune hapned to me; perhaps I may ſtill write the Memoirs of another Court, where I reſided ſome time, and which are no leſs particular than theſe; and there I ſhall have a fit opportunity to ſpeak concerning the Portraiture of this lovely Queen.

F I N I S.